

Thanks
for a
Great
2013!



The Bethel Citizen

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75¢ a Copy

Serving Bethel and neighboring communities in the mountains of western Maine



The Congo Craftsmen built large picnic tables for Pilgrim Lodge. Pictured are, front: Dean Walker, Dick Melville, Walter Hatch, Larry Engdahl. Ted Davis, Steve Lovejoy. Back: Bob Iles, Al Marcotte. Lidah Iles

"Congo Craftsmen" carve niche in community

By ALISON ALOISIO

It all started about 10 years ago when the West Parish Congregational Church in Bethel needed pew card holders. The holders attach to the back of each pew. "We came up with an

idea, and we designed and made one," said Bob Iles of Bethel. "It worked out pretty well." And so the "Congo Craftsmen" were born, although at the time they didn't necessarily see themselves becoming an established group.

That happened not long afterward, when they joined members of other churches across the state on an annual spruce-up/improvement day at Pilgrim Lodge camp (of the Maine Conference of the United Church of Christ) in West Gardiner.

"We had been doing some roofing with other groups, and we saw a need for new screens on the cabins," said Iles.

So began a four-year project - to replace 400 screens. See CRAFTSMEN, Page 3

2013 at a glance:

Bethel's Inaugural Poet

2013 began with the news that Bethel resident Richard Blanco had been chosen as inaugural poet for President Barack Obama's second inauguration. Blanco, who was born in Spain to Cuban parents and raised in Miami, had lived in Bethel for several years and worked as a civil engineer while writing poetry. He wrote and read "One Today" - a description of a day in the life of America - at the inauguration. The poem was popular with many people and Blanco found himself in high demand in the media and at many events that followed. He read poetry at a memorial event following the Boston Marathon bombing and at a commemoration on the 50th anniversary of John F. Kennedy's assassination, as well as at many literary and other events. He is the author of several books, most recently "For All of Us, One Today: An Inaugural Poet's Journey," an account of the writing of "One Today."

Andover eyes withdrawal

Andover's effort to craft a withdrawal plan for potentially leaving SAD 44 hit a snag for a time in 2013. The town and the district could not agree on the tuitioning of older students to Telstar. Andover wanted to be free to choose among regional schools, while SAD 44 wanted them exclusively tuitioned to Telstar. The stalemate and other issues prompted a delay in the town's vote on whether to withdraw, as well as the effective date of withdrawal. An agreement was reached in the fall allowing Andover freedom of choice. The date of the vote is Jan 7. A 2/3 majority is needed for approval. If passed, the effective date would be July 1, 2014.

SAD 44 gets grades, \$\$

SAD 44 got good news and bad news in the spring of 2013. In May two SAD 44 schools - Telstar High and Andover Elementary - received "F" grades on state "report cards" released on all Maine public schools. The other three SAD 44 schools - Telstar Middle, Crescent Park Elementary and Woodstock Elementary - received a "C." Standardized test results and other criteria were used in grading. The news improved in June, when SAD 44 was invited to join a \$25 million, five-year ongoing federal/state grant program that focuses on improving school environment, educator evaluation, professional growth and data management. The program includes financial incentives for school staff for meeting certain goals. The district has been working to implement the various aspects of the grant since.

Sign controversies

The Bethel sign ordinance and related lawsuits occupied much of town officials' time in 2013. At the June Town Meeting voters approved an amendment to make the ordinance more business-friendly by allowing larger roadside directional signs along state highways. But delays in getting contractors in place to make them prompted the Black Diamond Steakhouse to put up its own temporary sign. That, coupled with previous alleged sign ordinance violations by the business, led the town to file a civil lawsuit against business owners Ron and Rick Savage. At about the same time Rick Savage filed a wrongful arrest suit against the Town of Bethel, Town Manager Jim Doar and the Oxford County Sheriff's Department. It was prompted by Savage's arrest a year earlier outside the Bethel Town Office following an incident stemming from controversy over the sign ordinance. By year's end the wrongful arrest suit against Bethel and Doar had been dismissed, but the others were going forward. New directional signs finally began going up in November.

Dog park defeated

Another pair of related issues that occupied time in Bethel involved a proposed dog park on the town's Davis Park property and the potential return of SAD 44's Ethel Bisbee property to the Town of Bethel. The dog park plan was approved by the Planning Board, but a petition to instead build a basketball court on the site was presented to selectmen. In a resulting town vote the court was approved. During the process leading up to the vote, some residents suggested the Ethel Bisbee property should be returned to the town for possible recreational use. SAD 44 has been using it for cold storage for several years. At year's end discussions were proceeding to turn the property over in 2014. A town committee also crafted a report making recommendations for future recreational planning at Davis Park, EBS and other possible locations.

See 2013, Page 2

Second Andover school hearing Jan. 4

By ALISON ALOISIO

A second public hearing on a proposed plan for Andover to withdraw from SAD 44 will take place Saturday, Jan. 4.

The town vote will follow on Jan. 7. If approved by

a 2/3 majority, withdrawal would become effective June 30.

A draft budget for a new Andover school unit was presented at an earlier public hearing on Dec. 5. It shows that for the 2014-2015 school year the total budget

would be \$1,237,123.

The town's consultant on the budget, Jack Turcotte, was asked to prepare the "worst-case" budget in order to be sure all possible expenses were covered, according to town officials. A total of \$1,033,737 would

need to be raised locally, according to the budget.

Another \$235,400 would be needed for startup costs for the new school system, according to the budget. Selectmen will propose a

See HEARING, Page 4

Bethel rec fees to rise; regionalization of teams eyed

By ALISON ALOISIO

Participants in Bethel's recreation programs will be paying more in the future, following selectmen's approval last week.

The current resident charge of \$10 per person

per program (\$15 for two in the same family and \$5 for each additional) will go to \$25 per participant and \$35 for two (\$10 each additional).

For non-residents the charge would be \$30/\$40. Town Manager Jim Doar

said the Recreation Committee compared Bethel's fees to other towns in the region and found they are significantly lower.

There may be other recreational program changes coming down the road.

Doar said the committee is concerned about declining participation on town sports teams, and there has been informal discussion among area recreation groups about regionalizing

See FEES, Page 4



BETHEL'S SECOND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH - Taken in the mid-1890s, this rare photograph shows Bethel's "Second Congregational Church," which once stood in the Mayville section of town just east of the Norseman Inn facing present-day Route 2. Constructed in 1848-49, before a permanent bridge spanned the Androscoggin, the church served families on the north side of the river under the ministry of Rev. David Garland, who died in the pulpit in 1887. Soon thereafter, the steeple was removed (the photo suggests that this work had begun) and the building was used as an exhibit hall for the Bethel Agricultural Fair. The church was demolished in 1909. The photograph was recently donated to the Bethel Historical Society by Cynthia McFadden of Meredith, N.H., whose Mason ancestors once owned the Norseman Inn property, as well as the land on which the church was built.

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2013

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Pipeline prevails

In January a special Town Meeting vote to try to block the potential flow of dilbit ("tar sands") oil in the Portland Pipeline through Bethel created a side controversy. Concerned that the pipeline company might reverse the current flow of oil from Portland to Montreal in order to carry dilbit oil from Canada, some Bethel citizens proposed and were granted a vote at a special Town Meeting on a resolution opposing such a flow. After only brief discussion, the question was moved and approved before pipeline officials could have a chance to speak. Several months later a petition was circulated to bring the resolution back for a revote at the annual Town Meeting. Selectmen put it on the warrant and voters easily defeated it.

New hope for rail

The effort to return passenger rail service to Western Maine took a new turn in 2013 when a private entrepreneur from Montreal, Francois Rebello, proposed an luxury overnight passenger train service carrying travelers from Montreal to Boston, with a possible stop in Bethel. Rebello first presented the idea publicly in this area in September, with a goal of beginning the service next summer. He acknowledged then the timeline was ambitious, and said an agreement on the use of the St. Lawrence and Atlantic tracks would be needed. In November the boards of selectmen in Bethel, Greenwood and Woodstock provided letters of support as requested by Rebello. Bethel Town Manager Jim Doar, who is the chairman of the Androscoggin, Oxford and Coos County Corridor Committee seeking passenger rail, said towns along the rail corridor had been asked for letters "to get some political momentum to help make this happen." Rail service is also seen by some as a possible means to again make the former Casablanca Cinema building/Bethel Station property in Bethel a viable business location.

Record-setting runner

2013 was a good year for Telstar High School's top track and cross-country runner, Josef Holt-Andrews. After winning conference titles in Maine, he won and set a course record at the Festival of Champions in Belfast in the fall, beating 1,400 runners from across New England and Canada. He went on finish fifth in the Footlocker Northeast Regional race in New York, qualifying him for the Footlocker National Championship in San Diego in mid-December. He finished 10th, earning him the designation of All-American.

Accidents claim three

A car crash, a fire and a wood chipper accident took the lives of three local residents in 2013. In November Jake Bartholomew, 36, of Newry died when his car went off the Maine Turnpike. In October Josh Piawlock, 39, of Bethel died in a fire at his home in Bethel. And in July Sam Chapman, 60, of Bethel died in a wood chipper accident.

Historical changes

2013 was a year of milestones for the Bethel Historical Society. Longtime Executive Director Dr. Stanley Howe retired, and the society broke ground on an addition to the Robinson House that will create new space for research and storage of archives and artifacts. The addition will be known as the Mary E. Valentine Collections Wing, after the longtime BHS volunteer who died last year and bequeathed \$200,000 to the society. At year's end the wing had been constructed and closed in by contractor Dan Gibbs. It is expected to open in the spring.

Greenwood moves

The Town of Greenwood took a big step in 2013 when it moved its Town Office from the longtime location on the Bird Hill Road to the Jackson-Silver American Legion Post property on the Gore Road. The old office building, which had dampness problems, would have required extensive work and town officials recommended instead moving to a new location. The Legion offered a spot adjacent to its building, and at the annual Town Meeting in May townspeople approved. A modular building was delivered and placed on a slab in early October, and the Town Office staff moved in in early November.

CORRECTION

PHRASE INADVERTENTLY ADDED TO LETTER. A phrase was inadvertently copied to the end of Marcel Polak's Letter to the Editor in last week's Citizen. The Citizen regrets the error.

The Bethel Citizen

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Letters

THANKS FROM SENIOR CITIZENS

To the Editor:

On Dec. 11, 2013, Bethel's Senior Citizens Group was served a wonderful lunch at Bethel Inn. Our meals were delicious and served by a splendid staff of wait people. Thank you.

At our Christmas Celebration, we were also blessed with the choir from Crescent Park School under the direction of Mrs. Stowell. It was so nice to listen to the voices of these young people. There was no piano for accompaniment, but we have decided that it allowed us to hear the voices of these fine young singers and we did not miss it one bit. The behavior of these youngsters was credit to Mrs. Stowell; they behaved so well. We all hope they know how much we enjoyed being entertained by this choir; they are wonderful young people. Keep singing. Special thanks for singing "Spirit of Maine." Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to each one of you.

Fran Head
President Bethel Senior Citizens

THE YOUNG ARE NEEDED IN COMMUNITY

To the Editor:

I appreciated the cover story about the four young people who have chosen to return to their home community. And I wanted to thank each of them for making this decision and any other young folks who have chosen to stay.

This is a special area but it needs the next generation to help continue to make it a healthy, vibrant community.

Emily Ecker
Woodstock

BE A TELSTAR VOLUNTEER

To the Editor:

Please consider becoming a volunteer or community partner with Telstar Middle and High School. Starting this week, I will be out in Bethel to give you an opportunity to discuss volunteering and/or to sign up to be a volunteer.

Let me stress that we are looking for people who would like to volunteer for a one-time activity or those who would prefer a longer term commitment. I will be at Cafe DiCocoa this Friday, Dec. 27, from 9 to 11 a.m., and at the Bethel Library on Thursday, Jan. 2, from 1 to 3 p.m.

Make it a New Year's resolution to either reconnect with Telstar or become acquainted with the many rewarding volunteer opportunities. Hope to see you soon!

Rosemary Bunn Laban,
Bethel

Celladore

'What was your most difficult problem?'

The work went on here; things seemed on an even keel again. Then rings the phone, a young man in town reporting that Howard, B.B.'s father, had had a shock, no doctor was available on Saturday afternoon, was waiting for B.B. to come. Howard was like many people who had never been really ill; the slightest deviation from the normal terrified him. No B.B. to consult so I turned to Buster. His answer was quick. He would send Bob down with me in their car to see for myself. Howard was sitting in his car and I talked through the window.

"Where is B.B.?" he demanded. "Gone for two days, no way to reach him on the phone."

"Why is he gone when I need him? He should get me a doctor."

I noticed that Howard was sitting upright, he spoke clearly and did not look like a man on the brink of the grave. But he did have high color in his cheeks. There wasn't a suitable place to bring him on Celadore; even B.B. did not stay at home. I suggested he go down to the nearest hospital. There would be a doctor on duty. When B.B. got home we could make plans. No response. I went to Alice's, phoned the hospital, explained the situation and gave what information I could. They said to bring Howard down. Back to report.

"Do you want me to go with you? The carpenters will take the horses in for me," I offered. He looked at my clothes and said no, he definitely did not want me to go. The young man who phoned was willing to take him. I reported to Alice and went back to Bob who asked me if the tall man in the other car was my father-in-law. While I was in the house phoning he had gotten out of the car, walked around it and picked up something in the street. He didn't look too ill to Bob. So we went back up the hill. The boys didn't leave till the horses were in. There was nothing more they could do to help me.

Soon came the report. The doctor at the hospital said Howard's blood pressure was a little high, he only needed rest, there was no room to keep him there so he had gone back to his trailer. The young man offered to fill a prescription for him at the drugstore. I thanked him and said B.B. would pay him later, sat down to ponder and the phone rang again. This time Edward A., who should have been a city newspaper reporter; he always seemed to know what was going on. He thought that we ought not to leave Howard in the trailer this night, just in case he might be really ill and suggested that I phone the DesRoches family and see if they could take Howard for a few days. I did so; she could, was not allowed to take bed patients at her boarding home but since Howard was able to ride to the hospital and back he would be welcome. I took the flashlight to the barn, poked about and found a suitcase, was just washing my face when a car drove in. It was Brother Paul; Edward A. had sent him to help me move Howard. Paul we seldom saw; he was always engaged in multifarious business enterprises and as soon as he knew Howard was not critically ill, the talk was of his current affairs. When we got to Howard's trailer, Howard wasn't there and neither was his car. Paul suggested he might be at a filling station that he visited often, so we started off again. Just before we got there, looking down at the enormous traffic circle - quite incongruous for our little village - we saw Howard's car creeping along, so we all arrived at the station at the same time.

"Can you take us down to DesRoches or shall I get a taxi?" Yankee answering Yankee with another question, "Who is going to tell him he is going there?"

I of course had to do this and knew it would be no easy task. I accosted him as he was getting out of the car. There was nothing to be gained by scolding him for being out driving. I explained that B.B. was gone (which he already knew); Mrs. D. (whom he liked) would take him until B.B. came home and could plan for him. No, he did not want to go there. No, he definitely did not want to camp out in our ruins. What did he want to do? Silence. By holding out the lure that Paul was waiting to chauffeur him, he capitulated. He liked Paul and hadn't seen him for a long time. Back to the trailer we packed his bag and were off again. We were met in the DesRoches yard by a huge white dog. "Oh, what a beautiful Newfoundland dog!" I cried.

"It's a great Pyrenees," said Howard. Paul and I exchanged a glance. Into the kitchen we went where we sat as Mrs. D. wrote down the information she needed, reminiscing along with Howard about past experiences. The place was spotlessly clean, the room pleasant, on the counter I saw loaves of homebaked bread and cream puffs. I knew Howard would be in good hands.

Finally, back on the hill again, I was greeted with piteous calls from the horses. It was long past time for their evening grain. I gave them that. Paul came in to view the ruins by flashlight. He had three comments: how did we stand the smell; it would cost more than ten thousand dollars to fix the house; where did I get that copper rolling pin (my only modern piece of equipment). I had left it on the kitchen wall as it was a gay glitter among our drabness.

Paul was off; I cleaned up, fixed the fires, ate a bowl of soup and sank wearily into bed. Rings the phone. I dragged downstairs to answer. A sugary voice from town: did B.B. and I know that his father was not too well? This was not an uncommon occurrence and invariably such calls came from those who had never coped with the problem of keeping old people happy. I concealed my annoyance and explained. Back to bed, again the phone and same question. Finally silence.

I awoke Sunday a.m. at nine o'clock with sunshine streaming over my face. Oh, lovely day, no carpenters and B.B. gone! As soon as I checked on Howard's welfare, tended horses and cleaned away the debris ready for the boys on Monday, I would sit on the porch all day and rest. I just settled there when phone calls started asking about Howard. Then came several tourists. I called them this as they said at the end of their tour that they guessed I couldn't take care of Howard in a mess like this. Pat phoned. Could she borrow duchess as she had a visitor who could ride her Princess? Duchess needed exercise so I helped Pat gear her and get off. So it went. In the afternoon came Dot and Burton bringing me parsnips just dug from their garden. Eating the first batch was almost a pagan rite, proof that spring would really come. They were the first fresh-from-the-ground vegetable of the year; their flavor had an indefinable quality that no frozen food could ever match. I cleaned them in the snow, cooked them and ate them all, the first good-tasting food I'd had since the fire.

I awoke next a.m. to a white world - a big snowstorm in the night. By the rule of three, things should go more smoothly now; we had had a fire, B.B. had cut a tendon and Howard had had one of his ill spells. B.B. came in whistling. He had had a fine time at the clinic, had been to see Howard and found him more scared than hurt; all seemed well with the world. He put a big steak on the counter, explaining that it would be the boys' last day. Frank Lowell could spare them no longer. He thought it would be nice to get them a real dinner.

"Their last day!" I wailed. "But what are we going to do with your useless hand and all the work left to be done?" "Don't worry," he said. "Louis is coming." Louis was one of B.B.'s friends that I did not know very well, but one bridge at a time. Here and now was the farewell dinner. The boys certainly deserved the best that I could produce after all the days of soup. To the cellar, I poked amid the chaos in the red cupboard and found tomato juice, Kentucky wonders, pickles and a pint of blueberries. I drained the berries and made muffins. Our feast was gay, now without our usual never-to-be-avoided plaster dust skim over all. The afternoon flew by and it was time for farewells. The boys had once admired a fancy glass decanter seen in the cellar. I had collected a box of bottles from friends' Christmas beverage gifts and planned to use them for our home-made wine, but I gave the boys the whole collection; they demurring it was too much and I insisting it would be one less thing for me to clean up. We thanked them for their willingness to work on such a dirty, cold, disagreeable job and they thanked us for the soup breaks and the steak dinner. We invited them to come back and see us when we were a normal household again. They never came, but we always remembered them with affection and gratitude.

Our Back Pages

By Danna Brown Nickerson

10 years ago: Heavy rain over a two day period caused flooding that closed Routes 2, 26 and 5 in Bethel and Albany. Bethel reported 2.95 inches of rain, and Andover 3.36 inches. Mt. Abram opened for the season the weekend of Dec. 20 and 21.

Birth: Jordan Genevieve Berry.

Deaths: Penni L. Floster, Michael A. Cordwell.

20 years ago: The Maine Conservation School received \$10,000 from L.L. Bear to support program and facility development.

Daniel Zinchuk was presented with an award for 1,000 days of perfect school attendance. He had not missed a day of school since starting kindergarten.

Deaths: Evangeline M. Carlisle, George A. Crockett, Edgar Rainey.

30 years ago: Plans were underway for the second annual New Year's Eve Party at the South Ridge Lodge at Sunday River. Expert skiers were invited to join in the torchlight parade.

The Bethel Savings Bank announced the election of Dexter M. Stowell and Wilbur R. Myers as Trustee Emeriti of the bank.

Births: Joshua Thomas Taylor.

Deaths: John E. O'Leary, Mrs. Mabel B. Robertson, Helen Choate Abbott.

40 years ago: Mr. and Mrs. John Emery and Scott portrayed the Holy Family in Bethel's annual Living Nativity.

A fire of undetermined origin damaged the Village Restaurant, Church Street, on Christmas Day.

Birth: Shawn Philip Smith.

Death: Elwin H. Chenery.

50 years ago: A group of hardy members of the Mundt Allen Post, American Legion braved the elements and set up the boards for a community skating rink.

The annual Gould Alumni Christmas Dance was held at the William Bingham Gym with music by The Hathaways of Bryant Pond.

Births: Peggy-Sue Richard, Cherie Lynn Snider, Sheila Marie Gallant.

Death: Mrs. Dorothy Lovejoy.

60 years ago: At a special town meeting citizens of Bethel voted 135 to 30 in favor of adopting a town manager form of government.

The School Survey Committee agreed that the town should add to Crescent Park School the two rooms contained in the original plans which were not built at that time due to lack of funds.

Birth: Bonnie Lou Hutchinson.

Deaths: Mrs. Margaret M. Bean, Arthur C. Brinck, Mrs. Belle B. Bennett, Patricia Ann Davis.

70 years ago: Miss Ethelyn McMillin joined the WACs, and was receiving basic training at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga.

The Paris Farmers Union store on Skillings Avenue, South Paris was burned; the loss was \$60,000.

Deaths: Wallace Lee Kessell.

80 years ago: Over 300 children were at Naimey's store to greet Santa Claus and receive gifts from the Christmas tree.

Tyler's Garage at Bryant Pond was destroyed by fire; the loss was estimated at \$7,500.

Deaths: Mrs. Sarah Pike Allen, Allie T. Lawrence, Warren F. Hardy, Enoch Abbott, Miss Shirley DeCoster.

90 years ago: Charles Bean, proprietor of a boarding house on Main Street was stabbed by a lodger. Mr. Bean was taken to the hospital and the boarder committed to South Paris jail.

Miss Edna Bartlett resigned as principal of Bethel Grammar School, and was to teach language at Pettingill School at Rumford.

Death: Mrs. Sarah R. Blake.

100 years ago: The Volunteer Hose Company held a ball at Odeon Hall. Pettingill's Orchestra of Lewiston furnished the music.

J.S. Rich of New York presented Gould Academy with valuable books, which could make an excellent nucleus for a library for the use of a normal training course.

Deaths: Peter Chase Fickett, Otto Kokkonen.

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CRAFTSMEN

Continued from page 1



Bob Iles, Dean Walker and Larry Engdahl with benches they made for the 4-H Camp in Bryant Pond.



Larry Engdahl stamps the Pilgrim Lodge logo onto a bed rail while Steve Lovejoy sands another rail.

of varying sizes. Each Monday a half dozen or so men from the church gathered at Iles' garage.

"Every screen was custom-made," said Iles.

Although they received help off and on from many people, the core group working on the project included retirees Iles (dentist), Larry Engdahl (mechanical engineer), Walter Hatch (chemical engineer) Dean Walker (machinist).

With those backgrounds, precision and efficiency were the norm throughout construction and delivery.

"We sorted and shrink-wrapped the screens according to cabin," said Iles.

When that project was finally completed, the Lodge asked them to build large, hexagonal picnic tables to seat 12 people each.

"We built 15 in two sessions," said Iles.

And they've been busy ever since. They expanded their work outside the church setting to projects at the University of Maine 4-H Camp in Bryant Pond, building benches to go with tables in the dining hall, and then, when a small new dining hall was added, new tables and benches for that. They also built kiosks for the Mahosuc Land Trust. The core group, which now also includes Al Mar-

cotte and Steve Lovejoy, knows their construction routine so well that they barely need to discuss how to proceed any more. They start at 9 a.m., break for coffee at 10, and generally finish at noon.

"I make the coffee, they bring the donuts," said Bob's wife, Lidah.

"We do the projects for the camaraderie and the donuts," joked Iles.

There's plenty of joking during each session, thanks primarily to Hatch, according to the others.

He was in typical form at a recent gathering. Noting Iles' dentistry career, Hatch said Iles does most of the drilling.

"And he fills in the nail holes," he added.

Their most recent project has been building bed rails and ladders for 60 military-style steel bunk beds at Pil-

grim Lodge.

"This will make them code-compliant," said Engdahl, who draws up the plans for all the projects.

He also letters each piece with "Congo Craftsmen," and the date. For the church camp projects, the group brands each piece with the camp logo, using a brand fashioned by Walker.

They expected to have the bunk project done during the Christmas season.

But this group of Santa's helpers won't rest after the holidays.

"These elves work most of the year," said Iles.

The craftsmen said they welcome others who wish

to help out, noting the larger group members are not necessarily members of the Congo church.

They don't yet have their next project lined up.

"We haven't sent out RFPs (Requests for Proposals)," said Engdahl.

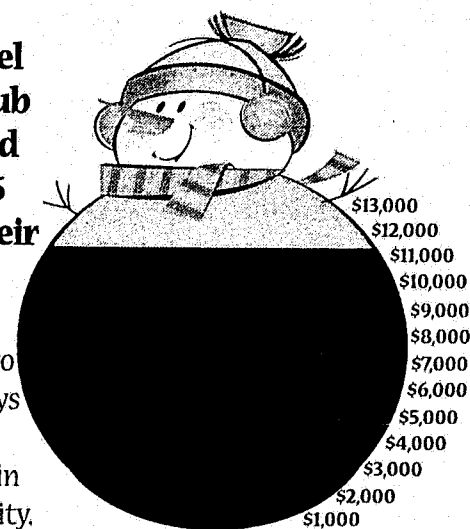
But they are open to project ideas, they said.

Other craftsmen helping the group in recent years have included: Rich Engdahl, Tim Roberts, Dave Morton, Walt Brough, Ted Davis, Dick Melville, Dave Shiverick, Steve Wight, Jim Chandler, Dave Miles, Buzz Gamble and the late Howard Cole and Dexter Stowell.

Christmas For Children

The Bethel Rotary Club has raised \$11,234.45 toward their goal of \$13,000

To be used to purchase toys for needy boys & girls in our community.



Contributions may be mailed to:

Bethel Rotary Club • Christmas for Children
PO Box 471 • Bethel, ME 04217

Deadline to apply is December 18. All applications will be kept confidential.

DiCocoa's Presents...

COCINA MEXICANA this winter!

We begin with our first dinner this Friday, December 27th from 5-8pm.

Remaining dates will be held the first Friday night of each month:

January 3rd • February 7th
March 7th • April 4th

5-8 pm - no reservations - BYOB

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Steamed Maine Lobster \$23
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DEC 26 2013



CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS AND 104 YEARS—On Friday, Dec. 27, Edna York of Albany celebrates her 104th birthday. Earlier this week she wrote Christmas cards sitting at her desk.
A. Aloisio

Bethel

By NANCY BROWN

This time of year most of us observe some holiday. We may be celebrating Hanukkah, Winter Solstice, Christmas, Kwanzaa, or just the coming of the New Year. If you're a fan of the old television show Seinfeld, you know that Seinfeld's friend George Costanza's family celebrated their own holiday of Festivus. This holiday, which was created on television, now has a following. It doesn't matter what holiday we celebrate; for most of us it is a joyful time of year.

I love to read what Charles Dickens said about this season. He described the Christmas Season as: "A good time, a kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time: the only time I know of, in the long calendar of the year, when men and women seem by one consent to open their shut-up hearts freely." Dickens described his philosophy as the "Carol Philosophy" after "A Christmas Carol." Dickens made it a life crusade to not only write about the hardships the poor faced in England, but to give to charity and fund programs for the poor. He hoped that he could make a difference in

people's lives. In the coming New Year, may all of us celebrate in this way. Edna York's 104th birthday is tomorrow. Edna was born on Dec. 27, 1909, and has lived many years in the Bethel area. Her occupations have included owning and operating a restaurant on Main Street in Bethel, librarian at the Bethel Library, volunteer at the Bethel Historical Society, and organist at the Albany Congregational Church.

A few years ago, Edna was presented the Boston Post Cane as Bethel's oldest resident. In 1909, the same year that Edna was born, the Boston Post newspaper distributed elaborately made walking canes to 700 New England towns. The canes were made of ebony imported from Africa and topped with 14-karat gold. The towns were instructed to give the canes to the oldest resident. Since then, the canes have been handed down to the next oldest survivor in each town.

Originally only men received the canes. In 1930, after protests, women became eligible to receive them. Boston Post publisher Edwin Grozier used the canes as a publicity gimmick to attract new readers. It worked for a while. At its height of popularity, the Post had a circulation of 600,000, but

the newspaper eventually went out of business in 1956. However, the Boston Post Cane remains a Yankee tradition in many New England towns, including Bethel. Happy Birthday, Edna.

If you have news to share, please e-mail me at brownnancy1950@gmail.com, or call me at 824-2483.

East Bethel

By CHERRI CROCKETT



Hello neighbors, as I sit here and think of what to include in this last column of 2013, the weather cannot decide whether it wants to snow, sleet or rain. If you've read my work, you know that I'm hoping for an all snow event.

Here we are on early deadline due to the Christmas holiday, but even earlier deadline due to the storm we're supposed to be receiving today. I didn't want to lose power and not get some most exciting news to you this week.

I'm so excited to invite you in helping me welcome a most handsome young man to the East Bethel community. Little Avery Samuel Kimball brought great blessing to Amos and Carrie's family last Wednesday evening, Dec. 18, when he joined

FEES

Continued from page 1

the teams.

"I told them to run with it," said Doar.

Asked by Selectman Peter Southam the reason for the decline, Doar said he believes it's a combina-

tion of a drop in population among the youngest generation and a decline in interest.

Southam also wondered if regionalization might leave area teams longer

distances to travel to find competition.

But Doar said by pooling populations, teams could be carved out of the total that could then play each other.

HEARING

Continued from page 1

\$400,000, 5-year bond to cover such costs, according to Selectboard Chair Susan Merrow.

The bond would likely be voted upon at the annual Town Meeting in March, she said.

The breakdown of the \$1.2 million budget includes \$17,200 for the School Committee; \$88,000 for the superintendent's office; \$18,000 for the principal's office; \$187,143 for elementary instruction; \$2,000 for guidance and counseling; \$3,300 for health services; \$49,000 for special education; \$5,000 for outside special education; \$179,086 for grades

6-8 tuition; \$338,959 for grades 9-12 tuition; \$68,500 for operation and maintenance of plant; \$89,600 for transportation; \$17,000 for food service; \$139,335 for employee benefits; and \$35,000 for CTE assessment.

Tim Akers is currently a SAD 44 School Board member representing Andover, a member of the Andover Withdrawal Committee, and a candidate for a new Andover School Committee should there be one. He said last week that should withdrawal be approved, the new school unit's committee would look for funding from other sources,

such as grants and in-kind donations, to try to reduce the budget.

"People have indicated that if we are on our own they would be more willing to donate time and money, such as for making improvements to the building (AES)," he said. "And we might perhaps be more free to apply for grants."

He reiterated that the draft budget was drawn up conservatively to ensure as many scenarios as possible would be covered, and could therefore be "on the high side."

The Jan. 4 hearing starts at 10 a.m. at the Town Hall.



The Way I See It

By Sharon Bouchard

I have come to the conclusion that couples were never meant to sleep together. I don't mean they shouldn't engage in a romantic relationship because they should, but I'm not going to get into that because this is a family publication, not a marriage manual.

What I'm talking about is that I don't think the human being was meant to sleep with another human being.

According to medical professionals, sleep is the most important thing that people can do for their good health. They don't know why sleep is so important, but they are sure that it is.

I don't think you have to be a sleep scientist to know that we need sleep because we work hard, some people play hard and we all get tired. We need sleep because we are tired and need an opportunity to rest our bodies and recharge our batteries so we can get up the next day and work or play hard all over again.

So with that in mind does it make sense that we should spend the most important part of the night in a tug-of-war with someone else?

You all know about the tug-of-war. The man rolls over and takes all the blankets with him. Then the woman wakes up because she's freezing and reaches to retrieve the blankets only to discover that honey bun has them firmly and securely wrapped around him. This forces the little woman to employ the two-handed wrist snap unrolling hubby and pulling the blankets to her side of the bed.

Thus begins the nightly tug-of-war for the blankets, which will escalate throughout the night. Sometimes in the course of the night at the height of the blanket battle, the wife, out of desperation and goose bumps on her flesh will resort to her secret weapon. She will once again do the two-handed wrist snap unrolling hubby and at the same time she will pin the blankets between her legs and then throw her body, face down, on top of them.

She has finally won this segment of the battle and is snug as a bug, but her defensive move has triggered the next phase of the war - boundary battle.

The man wakes up finding himself uncovered and chilled to the bone. He tugs on the blankets and they don't budge. Gently and sweetly he says, "Hon-

ey, you've got all the blankets." No response. A little louder and less sweetly he says, "Sweetie, give me some blankets." A slight groan comes from Sweetie as she rolls over a little taking a few more inches in blanket in her wake.

The kid gloves now come off. It's 2 a.m. and he's wide-awake and freezing. "Give me the blanket-blank blankets you battle axe," he says as he shakes her shoulder. She lets out another groan as she tucks a few more inches of blankets under her toasty warm body.

The poor man has no choice now but to move in towards her like a heat seeking missile. He slides his hands under the covers and wraps them around her and plants both bony knees into the small of her back and finally drifts off to sleep.

She wakes up now - sweating - and can't move because of his arms wrapped firmly around her, now dead weight holding her down. She tries to move her hips over but encounters only

I don't think people were really meant to sleep together.

the pain of his bony knees in the small of her back. She resorts to the elbow in the ribs trick to no avail. He merely groans, but does not move.

Clinging to the edge of the bed, hot from too many blankets and his body heat and suffering tremendous discomfort in the small of her back, she has no alternative but to stick her feet outside of the covers until they are nice and cold and then placing them strategically on whatever part of his body she can reach. And he moves - onto his back.

I think men should have to place electrodes on their bodies at night so when they end up on their backs a mild shock goes through their bodies causing them to roll to their sides. Why? Because within seconds of landing on their backs, men start snoring.

The little woman now has to attempt all the tricks of the trade to get Honey Bunch to roll to his side. The elbow to the ribs, the cold feet between his thighs, pinch-

ing his nose, covering her ears with a pillow, covering his face with a pillow. Nothing seems to work at this point.

There is something else about men besides the snoring when they are on their backs. They are in the sleep of the dead. An earthquake won't wake them up. You can yell at them, you can beat them, you can try whatever you like, but they won't wake up. They're just going to lay there, mouth wide open, arms spread out, one of them hitting the wife in the face, and snoring away.

This is when the wife starts hearing the night noises over his snoring. The creaks in the floor boards sound like someone walking around the house. The sound of the furnace kicking on doesn't sound right; like maybe it will blow up. The sound of what might be footsteps outside of the bedroom window or what sounds like the front door opening have her sitting up and wide awake.

But the hubby snores on oblivious to the horrors that are now befalling the wife. She tells herself that these are just night noises, nothing is wrong and if it was she'd never wake him up anyway. She tells herself to relax, everything is okay and he will eventually roll to his side and stop snoring. And then she smells the smoke.

The poor woman has no choice now but to roll over taking all of the blankets with her and tucking them under her. And so on it goes.

During the night if either person should get up to go to the bathroom they will return to find the other person crossway in the bed hogging all the blankets and hugging all of the pillows. The person on the outside of the bed, tired and shivering now has to wrestle the blankets and pillows away from the sleeper while at the same time attempting to push them over to their own side of the bed.

As I said, I don't think people were really meant to sleep together. The night is too short and love is too precious to spend it in battle. Twin beds pushed side by side just might be the answer to a peaceful night's sleep and a stable relationship. I'm not saying everyone should run right out and buy twin beds, but the way I see it, it's an idea that wouldn't do any harm to sleep on for a while.

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OCSD Patrol Log

Tuesday, Dec. 17

At 4:33 a.m. a report was received of a theft from a convenience store in Bethel. Deputy Andy Whitney contacted the suspect, who did not realize they left without paying. The subject agreed to return and pay.

At 5:55 a.m. a report was received of a disabled vehicle on Route 2 in Hanover. After further investigation it was determined the disabled vehicle was the same involved in an accidental theft at a convenience store in Bethel. The owner was asked to return to the store to pay.

Wednesday, Dec. 18

At 7:38 p.m. Sgt. Tim Ontengco responded to a motor vehicle crash at the Route 2/Barker Road intersection in Bethel. Slippery road conditions were a contributing factor. No one was injured.

At 4:59 a.m. Deputies Andy Whitney and Dani Welch arrested a subject on the Patch Mountain Road in Greenwood for burglary and theft in connection with entry to a occupied dwelling.

At 4:52 p.m. Lt. Tom Harriman and Deputies Andy Whitney and Mike Halacy located a burglarized camp and stolen snowmobile off Furlong Lake Road in Greenwood. The snowmobile was recovered. The investigation is ongoing.

At 4:53 p.m. Lt. Tom Harriman and Deputies Andy Whitney and Mike Halacy located a burglarized seasonal camp with extensive damage on Furlong Lake Road. The investigation is ongoing.

Thursday, Dec. 19

At 11:44 a.m. deputies responded to a car-pole crash on North Road in Bethel. There were no injuries.

At 10:15 p.m. a subject ran off the road in Woodstock. The subject was drinking on scene and became combative, and was arrested for disorderly conduct and failure to submit to arrest.

Friday, Dec. 20

At 10:37 a.m. Deputy Richard Murray responded to the area of Sunday River Road in Newry for a two-vehicle crash with no injuries.

At 4:30 a.m. Deputy Richard Murray responded to Mason Street in Bethel for a harassment complaint.

Saturday, Dec. 21

At 5:24 p.m. Deputy Nathan Bowie responded to the Greenwood Road in Greenwood for a report of theft of coins and savings bonds.

At 8:52 p.m. on the Sunday River Road in Newry Deputy Dani Welch summonsed a subject for possession of marijuana.

At 9:48 p.m. on Route 26 in Bethel Deputy Dani Welch arrested a subject for operating without a license.

Sunday, Dec. 22

At 11:05 a.m. Deputy Andy Whitney responded to Mayville Road in Bethel for a traffic offense. There was no contact and the Rumford Police Department and another deputy were advised of the situation.



JOSH AYLWARD GRADUATES FROM CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACADEMY—Josh Aylward, a 2002 Telstar High School graduate, was one of 50 police officers to graduate Friday from the Maine Criminal Justice Academy in Vassalboro after completing 18 weeks of training. Aylward is an officer with the Mexico Police Department. He is shown here with MPD Chief James Theriault. Submitted photo

his four older sisters to help his family celebrate the last couple weeks of 2013.

Now, I say little, but Avery Samuel came into this world weighing a healthy 8 pounds, 7 ounces, and measured 22 inches in length. It looks like he may already have plans to captain the Telstar football team one day.

Congratulations to Amos and Carrie's families on their addition to the family. With four older sisters, Avery Samuel is going to be looked after quite nicely, I'm certain.

This past week while I was driving to work, there were three turkeys crossing the road up ahead so I slowed. As I crept along and let them get across, they started racing down the snow bank trying to jump on it and get out of my way. They did this run, bounce routine for 25 yards or so and then when I got right next to them, it

was like a light bulb went off in their heads. They spread their wings and lifted themselves over the bank to safety.

At first I giggled when I saw this, but then it made me think. Here is another lesson from our beautiful natural world.

How many of us find ourselves in what we think is a life and death predicament, run as fast as we can to get away from it toward a safe place, whether it be figuratively or literally, and cannot get over that last obstacle? It's normally not until the last moment when we think we're about to see the end, that we realize we have wings in our Heavenly Father, and can fly to safety.

Now, after I drove past the birds and they had flown safely to the top of the snow bank, I looked in my mirror and they were all walking back down into the road. Another lesson revealed.

Human nature forces us to run to safety, find our wings in the moments of true uncertainty, but the real effort comes when we're faced with continuing along the new path to possibly better things or to turn back when the threat is gone and walk our same path.

With the end of the year approaching, I ask you this, were there certain events in your life that had you running for cover, finding your wings and taking a leap of faith? Did you continue along a new path and see what great blessing lay in store for you, or did you wait for things to settle so you could go back to what is familiar and comfortable to you?

I wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas, and pray each of us find our wings to have faith in seeing what's over the next bump in the road, and the courage to continue forward.

If you would like to share any news, thoughts or goings on of your family, please feel free to email me at brindlelabs@gmail.com or call me at 357-3469. In all His glory and love at this most special time of year.

Locke's Mills

By BETSEY FOSTER



It's that slow time of year for much to happen in the world of government. The Selectmen met recently and signed the State's general assistance order. Not that they really had much choice. When Greenwood pays someone general assistance, the State reimburses us for 50 percent of what we pay out. As long as we signed the new State order, they will continue to reimburse us for that 50 percent. Not my idea of an option to disagree. The new Maine general assistance order is many

pages long, and one of the requirements for anyone who requests general assistance is that he cashes in his life insurance policy before receiving anything. That seems a bit harsh to me. Assistance is swinging from too lenient to too harsh.

Jim St. Germaine and Eva Mills were reappointed to the Greenwood Planning Board. Thanks to both of you for continuing to serve.

The town office will be closed Dec. 25 and 26 as well as Jan. 1. The transfer station will be closed Christmas and New Year's Day.

On a lighter note, the general area is seeing an influx of Welsh corgis. They are those short-legged, large-eared, gold dogs often with a white ruff. I was at Pooh Corner Greenhouse and three of them romped out to greet me and to ultimately play with my dog. The next thing I knew two more corgis arrived - eight-week-old pups owned by Jim Oliver. Yes, they were just too cute for words. Corgi party in West Bethel.

Have you noticed the beautiful banner at The Local Hub? It hangs on the front of the building and celebrates building community. It was drawn and painted by area children with the assistance of Mattie Rose Templeton. Nice addition.

In the past 10 days Mother Nature seems to have been trying out her assortment of winter weather tricks. Snow storm of significance, bitter cold morning, an ice storm, and a beautiful 28-degree sunny day with powder snow. She does not seem to know which she prefers. In case she needs help with that decision, I'm suggesting six to eight inches of new powder snow each week (at night, of course) followed by 28-degree sunny days the rest of the week. Are you listening, Mother Nature?

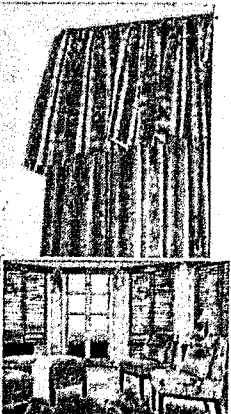
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Responsible Pet Care of Oxford Hills is a no-kill, non-profit shelter and adoption center for cats and dogs; and the holding area for stray dogs for 12 towns in Oxford County. The shelter has moved to a new location at 9 Swallow Road in Paris. Anyone interested in adopting a pet from RPC can visit the shelter Tuesday-Sunday 12-4 p.m. Most of the adoptable pets and the adoption application can be found online on the shelter's website at www.rpcpetfinder.com. For answers to questions about adopting or fostering a pet, or to make an inquiry about a lost animal, call Responsible Pet Care after noon at 743-8679.

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Please send news to 3taichi6@gmail.com. Weather requests go to Mother Nature.

Bryant Pond

By ALICE HOYT



Judith Grover Tent 17 met at the home of Alice Hoyt on Monday, Dec. 16 for a regular meeting and Christmas party. The Charter was draped. Several communications were read, including one from MVH for Halloween candy and Togs for gifts of comfort items, gifts and clothing.

Department President Elsie Bonney told of a trip she took to visit Tent #23. Second nomination of officers was held. Installation of officers will be held in January. Some dues were paid. Calls reported were 40. Mystery package went to Alice Hoyt. Vickie read about Christmas during the Civil War.

Next meeting is Jan. 13 at Alice's. Exchange of gifts and cards were held, as well as a tasting party. Eight members attended.

Services at the Baptist Church are Sunday School at 9:45, Morning Worship at 10:30, Evening Service at 6 p.m., Wednesday

day evening at 6:30 is Mid-Week Service.

Not much news as too much snow and too cold.

Anyone with news may call 665-2460 or write PO Box 105.

South Woodstock

By LOLLALEE DILLINGHAM

Condolences to the family of Melvin Young; our thoughts, prayers and love to each family member. This man will be greatly missed by all who knew him, including me.

Get well wishes are going out to our neighbor, Grace Hurd, who recently suffered a stroke and a heart attack and has come down with pneumonia. We are holding her in our prayers on a daily basis.

This is going to be a short column this week, I need to get back to my crocheting and knitting and get some baking done.

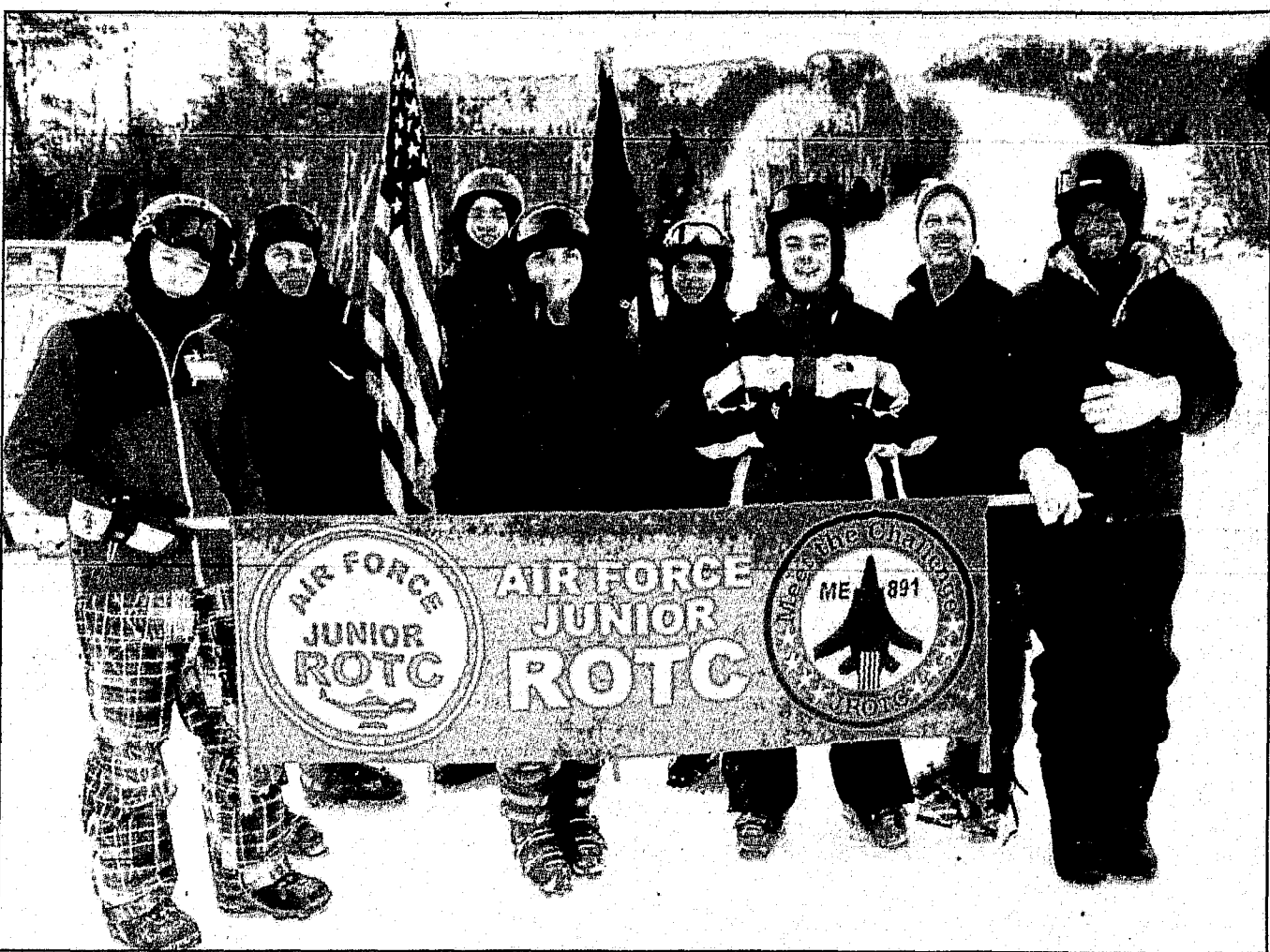
Andover

By JANE C. RICH

Residents should be advised that it's time to license your dogs for 2014 which should be done by Dec. 31. Other significant dates are Jan. 3 when warrant articles and reports for the annual Town Report are due in at the Town Office. This includes a photo for the

front cover of the report. This date allows the Selectmen adequate time to prepare the report which must be at the printers by the first week in February.

There will be a special election on Jan. 7 regarding the withdrawal of the town from SAD 44. This is important to every resident in the town and the second public hearing will be on Jan. 4, 7 p.m. at the Town Hall. As a former selectman I urge you to educate yourself about the



JR. ROTC AT MT. ABRAM OPENING-Members of the Jr. ROTC from Lewiston High School took part in opening activities Dec. 14 at Mt. Abram. Pictured are, front: Airman Jake Morin; Captain Bernadett Racine; 2nd Lt. Bryce Smith; Airman Basic Zahdave Johnson. Back: Master Sergeant Tom Noury; Airman Basic Max Turcotte; Airman Basic Nathan Ouellet; Lt Col. Mark Welborn.

Submitted photo

alternatives, the cost and the general process so that you may be able to make an intelligent yes or no vote and above all - VOTE. Absentee ballots are available at the Town Office until three days before the election.

Last week the Food Pantry distributed Christmas Baskets to 31 families and helped 22 children have a happier Christmas through the "yellow star" program. Patrons of the pantry are reminded that the pantry will be closed Dec. 31 as it was on Dec. 24. The next day for food distribution is Jan. 7.

Many local residents were surprised and pleased by the Christmas Caroling group from Calvary Bible Church who visited homes on Thursday evening. About 30 adults and children sang traditional Christmas carols and the youth group members presented boxes of "goodies" to those who welcomed them into their homes. It has been a number of years since we had a caroling group in Andover and it was a wonderful return to a local tradition. Thank you for making this happen.

As I write this on Saturday afternoon, so we can get it to the Citizen before the power goes out, we are anticipating an ice storm which we are told will not be as bad as 1998, which many of us do not remember with any fondness, but rather something we simply survived. We are a hardy bunch here in this western corner of Maine and people are prepared for the worst and hoping for the best.

Gilead

By LIN CHAPMAN

I hope everyone has a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. However you celebrate, enjoy your friends and family during this holiday season.

My brother, Steve McLain, was getting his generator ready for the impending ice storm. When you live in Maine, you should always be prepared for bad weather.

Hugh and I headed for Portland last Saturday to pick up Chris and Kym. Their plane from Omaha, by way of Detroit, arrived right on time at 3:49 p.m. We stopped by the Cracker Barrel restaurant for a quick bite to eat and then headed home. The traveling was fine, so we were thankful to get home before any really bad weather arrived. It is so nice to have them home for the holidays. We hope to catch up with Tim and Michele later if the weather allows. Tim and Michele will be the hosts for Christmas Day at their house.

I was up early Sunday morning and when I looked out the window around 6:30 a.m. to check the weather, there was a deer walking across the front lawn. It went out into the street and across the tracks.

I am writing this column early Sunday morning in case we lose power later on. There is not much to write about, but will add any other news next week. Got any news? Call 836-

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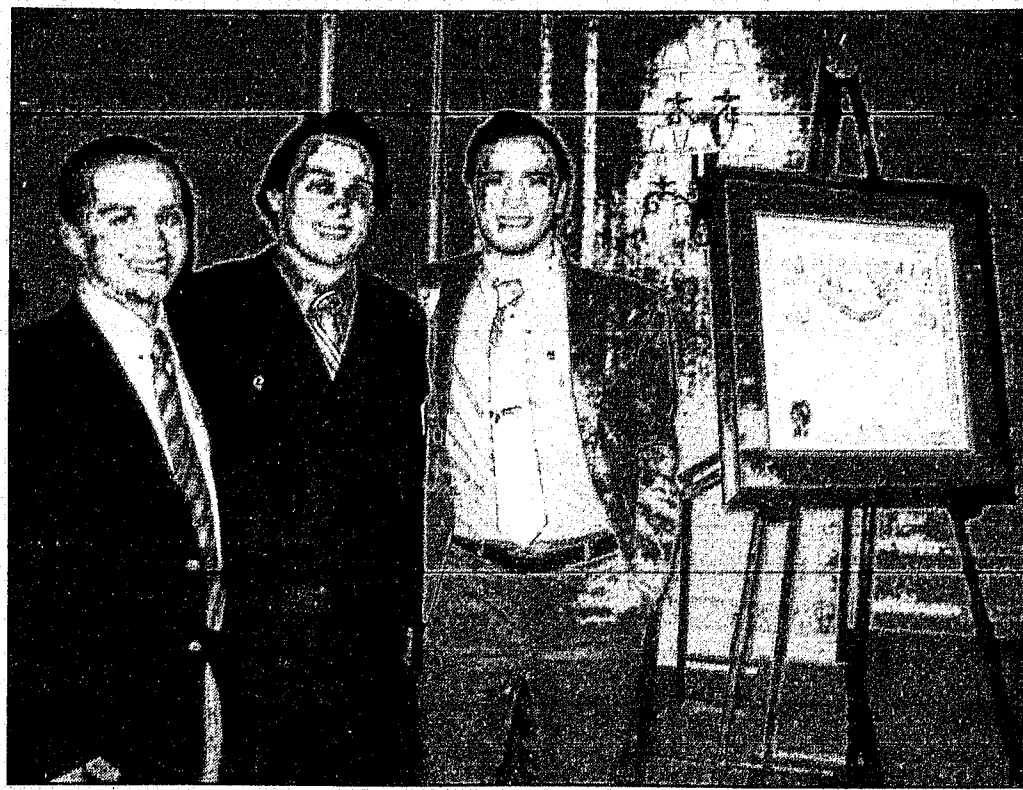
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A PORTRAIT UNVEILING AT THE HALL OF FLAGS in the State Capital in Augusta took place recently. Painter Robert Shetterly who created the project "Americans Who Tell the Truth" (www.americansthattellthetruth.org), unveiled his two most recent portraits: Esther Attean and Denise Altavater, who helped develop the Maine Wabanaki-State Child Welfare Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Arla Patch from Bryant Pond, and Community Engagement Coordinator for Maine-Wabanaki REACH, a support organization for the TRC, got the idea to ask Shetterly if he would add these Passamaquoddy women to his nearly 200-portrait collection. Plans are being made to bring an exhibit of his portraits to Bethel in January. Pictured are, from left: L. Denise Altavater, Robert Shetterly, and R. Esther Attean.

Submitted photo



LOCAL UM STUDENTS TAKE PART IN FRATERNITY CHARTERING - On Nov. 16 the Beta Upsilon Chapter of the Alpha Tau Omega National Fraternity was chartered at the University of Maine. 2011 Telstar graduates Joshua Bellinger, Daniel Vaughn and Elek Pew, juniors at the University of Maine and brothers of ATO, took part in the chartering ceremony.

Submitted photo

2987 or e-mail chapmal@hotmail.com.

Hanover

By MARIA HOLLOWAY



Town Hall will be closed New Year's Day but will be open New Year's Eve from 8 a.m. to 12 noon. Those wishing to qualify for the 2-percent discount must pay their property taxes no later than Dec. 31, 2013, and may come into the Town Office to make their payment in person in order to meet the deadline.

The Harrington Family extends heartfelt thanks to Mark Beaudoin of Mark Beaudoin Logging, who cut them a specially selected Christmas tree for the holidays. Apparently the Harrington's cat was not sharing in the family's Christmas joy as he took it upon himself to knock the tree over at 3 a.m. that morning!

Keith Crockett-Harrington shot a 137 pound, 8-point buck with a muzzle loader on Dec. 7 in Bethel. His mom, Hanover Deputy Town Clerk Kelly Harrington, was very proud. Keith is the young man who led the Hanover Picnic Pavilion project for credit toward his Eagle Scout badge. Congratulations, Keith!

The monthly meeting of the Hanover Board of Selectpersons was held at the town office last Tuesday, Dec. 17 at 6 p.m. Present were Chairperson Brenda Lee Gross, Selectperson Richard Stratton, Town Clerk, Clem Worcester, and three audience members. Peter Holloway, a resident of Hanover Pines, was there to request that the Board consider him for the open position of

Planning Board alternate. The Board accepted his request and appointed Mr. Holloway to the volunteer post. The board was appreciative and expressed their gratitude to Mr. Holloway who has been a resident of the town for nearly two years. Other vacant positions include Regional School Unit 10 Director, Planning Board Second Alternate, Tri-Town Solid Waste Member and Recycling Board Member. The Select Board welcomes anyone interested in serving in these positions to inquire at the Town Office.

It was also reported at the meeting that Hanover has met its income budget for State Revenue Sharing.

Have you had a chance to stop by the Stony Brook Variety just a half mile east of Newry Corner on Route 2 in Hanover? The official opening was Saturday. According to owner Bruce Powell, customers have been steadily streaming in to grab a coffee or sandwich or to purchase groceries, beer and newspapers. There is seating for ten persons, or customers may take sandwiches or pizza to go. Best of luck to Bruce and Shirley Powell in their new venture.

Happiness and health to all in the New Year! Got news? Please send your news, feedback or questions to my new address at HanoverMENews@gmail.com.



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Waterford

By ROCKIE GRAHAM



This has been quite a week. Dave injured his knee falling off a ladder and because no one else was available to work at the transfer station, Sadie and I worked. We did okay but needed help later in the day because neither of us is authorized to use the bucket loader. Scott Sumner was kind enough to come in and bail us out. Joe helped too. Which reminds me, I was not intending to say the town crew was negligent or not caring or whatever else I was accused of. Quite the opposite. I was saying that they do such a good job that I hated for them to have to do even more work. They had their hands full this weekend too. I hope they get a break had get to spend a nice Christmas with their families.

We are settling into a slow holiday. We have family and friends coming Christmas day, but otherwise not much is

scheduled. We may have to snow blow our camp, but that is all. Hope others have the same quiet holiday planned. Next week will bring in the New Year. We have no New Year's Eve plans. We haven't since I moved from Newry. That made it easy to go to New Year's Bethel when it was still around, but driving far late at night is no fun, unless you are around. So I say now, Merry Christmas to all and Happy New Year next week.

That will be all for today as I am past deadline and my hands are not happy with me using them. Have a great holiday.

Upton

By JOE BERNIER



Only two weeks until the Ladies Aid Association's Sunday breakfasts commence. I am ready.

The State Line Snowmobile Club is scheduled to meet Saturday, Jan. 4, 9 a.m. at the Upton House. Today (Sunday, Dec. 22) the weathermen are predicting an ice storm. It

Backyard Reflections

By Sara Wright

The Year of the Grouse

The first spring I lived in my log cabin a male ruffed grouse came to call and drummed out his mating song on an old tree stump situated at the edge of the forest just behind my house. I was amazed at how the drumming resonated in the damp hollow and I recall feeling welcomed by this impeccably well camouflaged denizen of the field/woodlands. I observed the ruffed neck and rapid wing beating display that creates the unusual low frequency thrumming sound that increases in tempo before ceasing, and then watched him strutting about on the damp leaf strewn forest floor pecking occasionally at something I couldn't

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Sunday River

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26

2013



A LOOK BACK IN TIME-This photo of the old Rand's Store in Locke's Mills was likely taken in the 1930s, according to the Greenwood Historical Society, which provided the photo.



MAKING ROOM FOR HISTORY-Work on the new Mary E. Valentine Wing at the Bethel Historical Society's Robinson House has moved inside. The wing is expected to be completed this spring.

A. Aloisio

identify. I kept an eye out for a female but never saw one, and one day my musical friend disappeared. I did know that the females were receptive to mating with displaying males for only a few brief days so it didn't surprise me that I missed her. Little did I know it then but that male or one of his relatives would return year after year to dance for his mate on the same crumbling log in early April, and that each year at least one family of grouse would make their home here in the spring. Some sources say that these birds are very territorial but my experience suggests otherwise since I often have more than one family of grouse living in this area.

In June of that first year a mother grouse appeared in the tall field grass at the edge of the field with what looked like miniature adult grouse babies scurrying behind her as I watched transfixed from the living room window. Because these chicks are precocial, they can move about within three or four days of hatching. There are normally 9 to 14 eggs laid by the female in thick brush and they hatch within the month. I guessed that the prickly ground juniper probably provided the safest nesting areas in this patch of land but in all these years I have yet to discover a nest. Both eggs and brood have so many predators -foxes, weasels, skunks, hawks - to name a

few - that it is amazing to me that any survive into adulthood, which occurs in about three months when the little family breaks up. That first summer was the first time I ever witnessed a mother grouse chirp ever so pitifully and drag a wing on the ground the moment she saw me, her chicks scattering in the opposite direction. I believed she had really been hurt; this act was that convincing. Mother grouse use this broken wing technique to lead predators away from their chicks and I am moved every time I see it. I notice that if I call out softly to the mother that sometimes I can calm her and stop her frantic ground flight.

Grouse are omnivores and spend most of their time on the ground or in the lower branches of trees. They eat buds, leaves, berries seeds and insects. In the winter they feast on dormant flower buds or catkins, birch seeds that look like tiny footprints, cherries and flowering crabapples.

Ruffed Grouse (the kind we have around here) are often confused with the gray partridge, even though the two are not closely related. The partridge in a pear tree is not a grouse! Grouse are the number one game bird hunted in the State of Maine today. Native peoples were also believed to have harvested this bird, and yet the mythology

around the grouse is so sparse that it suggests to me that these birds may not have been as important to Indians as they are to us, perhaps because turkeys were in such abundance? The one exception is that some Native peoples associated the grouse with cycles, and the grouse population does rise and fall in definite cycles of abundance and attrition; this year has been a year of great abundance. A hunter friend of mine says he has shot more grouse this year than ever before. Privately, I cringe because I am so fond of these birds. I know that I have never seen so many around my house at this time of year. I wonder what changes next year will bring.

We had snow last night and this morning I walked around the house checking for bird and animal tracks. As I rounded the corner of the house closest to the woods, a grouse surprised me by scurrying through a couple of stones and disappearing under the porch. This was a first and I followed the bird's trail backwards to a nearby brush pile where it had probably spent the night, admiring the delicate pattern created by the three toed tracks. I think of tracking as a kind of language written into the ground just waiting for someone to read the story. I wondered if he or she (both sexes look alike) had seen the deer that had come in to feed

on the disappearing hill of crabapples the evening before. Grouse are normally so friendly that I have reached the conclusion that they feel safe here and every fall, especially during hunting season, I can expect to see this beautifully marked full bodied bird with its small crest sitting in the low branches of my crabapple trees, scouring the ground outside my bedroom window for the last grapes of the season, or just hanging around. Sometimes around dusk when the cardinals come in to feed I see one pecking at seed under the pines. During the winter I walk or snowshoe through the trails that I've made through the overgrown field, now pine and juniper strewn, and sometimes a grouse will explode out of its burrow in the deep snow startling me in the process. I am never prepared for the sight of these roosting birds that find shelter in snow caves in between feedings. In the late afternoons during the rest of the year I often meet one taking a dust bath at the side of my road to rid itself of parasites. Occasionally one will leave me a tail feather or two, and the subtle mole brown and wheat colored ladder like markings of the tail feathers stand out dramatically with a broad band of black brushed through the tips of each quill.

As I write this article in the last and darkest month of the year I am aware of cosmological cycles. The year of the grouse is coming to an end; we are about to end one season and be-

gin another. The winter on the horizon, stream-solstice is less than three weeks away, and it won't be long until the sun is once more rising higher ahead.

News from Bethel Historical Society

The next issue of the Bethel Historical Society's history journal, "The Courier," will be published soon. This special double issue contains an in-depth article by past BHS president William D. Andrews about the famous Gehring Clinic, which catered to well-heeled Americans suffering from nervous disorders from 1897 to the early 1920s. Under the supervision of Dr. John George Gehring (1857-1932), patients - including philanthropist and Bethel summer resident William Bingham 2nd (1879-1955) - were treated using a combination of sedatives, talk therapy, hypnosis, and physical exercise. At one time, so many of Harvard's faculty were among the patients that the clinic was known as the "resting place of Harvard University." Over 800 people currently receive "The Courier," as well as the BHS newsletter, "The Broad Street Herald," as a benefit of membership in the organization. Recent donors to the Society's Annual Fund are Suzanne and Lincoln Fiske, Andrea Greenleaf and Carol Jorgensen, Timothy and Iris Roberts, Larry and Rowena Wentzell Strout, Pauline Davis, Ann H. Borreson, and Laurel Blossom. With less than a week left in this year's campaign, the Society encourages anyone who has enjoyed a program or exhibit at BHS and hasn't donated to make a tax-deductible gift to help the Society reach its \$45,000 goal by Dec. 31. Donations in any amount are most welcome and greatly appreciated! Contributions may be mailed to P.O. Box 12, Bethel, Maine 04217. Online donations may be made through the Society's website (bethelhistorical.org) using PayPal or credit card.

Sports

Middle School

Boys' Varsity Basketball

Telstar 42, Buckfield 34; Dec. 19 - The Telstar MS varsity boys' basketball team defeated Buckfield. Blake Rothwell led the team in scoring with 20 points, while Jarrett Bean added 14 points, 12 rebounds and 7 assists. The rebels also got other teammates involved in the scoring with Ryan Beckerman and Matt Morin tossing in 4 points each. The team is now 2-1 as they go into the Christmas break. - Coach O'Connor

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Non Fiction:

The Ariadne Objective, by Wes Davis; The Bully Pulpit, by Doris Kearns Goodwin; The Death of Santini, by Pat Conroy; Goodbye to All That: An Autobiography, by Robert Graves; I Am Malala, by Malala Yousafzai; This Is the Story of a Happy Marriage, by Ann Patchett;

Books for teens:

Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Hard Luck, by Jeff Kinney; Explorer 2: The Lost Islands, by Kazu Kibuishi; Flight of the Honey Bee, by Raymond Huber.



STUDENTS OF THE MONTH-The Rotary Club of Bethel honored Telstar High School students for the month of December at a recent club meeting. Pictured l-r: India Orino, Kristi Hanscom, Rene McGrew, Club President; Nik Conrad, and Dan Hart, Telstar High School Principal.

Submitted photo

Books for children:

Deep in the Sahara, by Kelly Cunneane; Lost Cat, by C. Roger Meader; Ol' Clip Clop, by Patricia McKissock; Once Upon a Northern Night, by Jean Pendziwol; Train, by Elisha Cooper; Xander's Panda Party, by Linda Sue Park.

Audio book:

Savor the Moment, by Nora Roberts.

DVDs:

Fantasia; For Your Eyes Only; From Russia With Love; Ian Fleming's Diamonds Are Forever; Ian Fleming's You Only Live Twice; The Living Daylights; Moonraker; Oliver!; The World Is Not Enough.

Bethel Senior Citizens news

The Bethel Senior Citizens Club met Dec. 11 at the Bethel Inn for their meeting and dinner with 44 members present. President Caroline Gould led in the salute to the flag, led in singing "America the Beautiful" and offered a prayer. Reports were given by Becky Keen and Arlene Lowell. The raffle was won by Norman Beaupre and the door prize by Fran Head. The cookbooks with recipes from members were made by Shannon Thielbar and Becky Keen and distributed to members.

The basket, which was painted and donated by Eleanor Brooks, was won by Ruby Coolidge and the jewelry, made by Laney Cross and donated by Phyllis Cross, was won by Marilyn Gilbert. \$80 was raised for the club by selling tickets on those items.

Lise McLain made and donated four necklaces which were won by Fran Head, Musa Brown, Barbara Patterson and Sandra Beaupre.

The next meeting is Jan. 8, 2014 at the Bethel Methodist Church. Meeting starts at 11 a.m., this will be a pot luck meal; members will bring a dish to share. The auction will also be held at the meeting, members will bring items for that. Dues (\$3) are also due at this meeting. New members are always welcome.

The Crescent Park chorus under the direction of Linda Stowell sang several Christmas Carols which was enjoyed by all. Thank you Linda and children.

Envelopes for Nina Wheelers Christmas for Families and the Bethel Food Pantry were passed around for those who wished to donate.

Many thanks to Caroline Gould for all she has done for the club while she was president.

Officers for the coming year are President Fran Head, Vice-President Lise McLain, Treasurer Becky Keen, Assistant treasurer Barbara Mahler and Secretary Arlene Lowell.

Happy birthday was sung to those having December birthdays: Musa Brown, Caroline Gould, Alma Merrill and Mary Paine.

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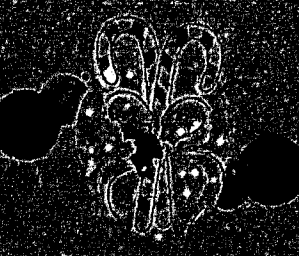
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in the
coming
New Year

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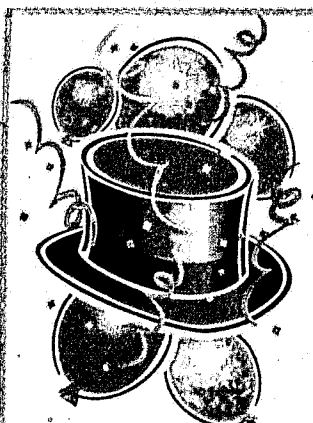
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a Happy
New Year

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Holidays!**

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and good times.

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Greetings at
year's end

With warm wishes and
heartfelt thanks to our
neighbors and friends.

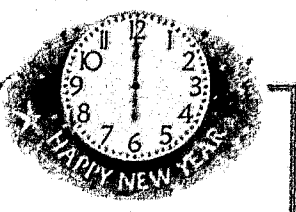
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of Newry
Residents:**

The Newry
Town Office and
Volunteer Fire
Department
wish to
express our
thanks for
your support.

**HAPPY
HOLIDAYS!**



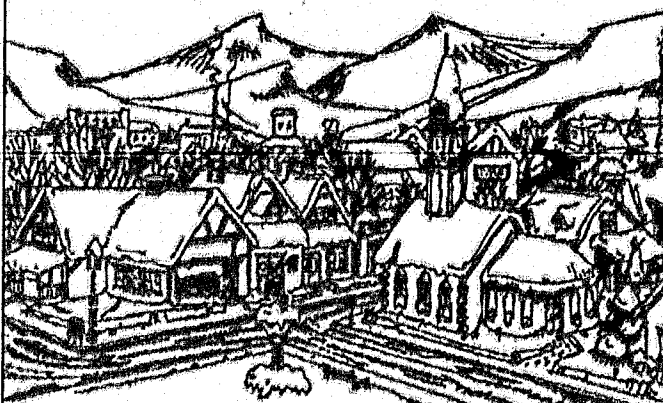
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every minute
of serving you
this past year
and we hope
to see
you again,
soon.

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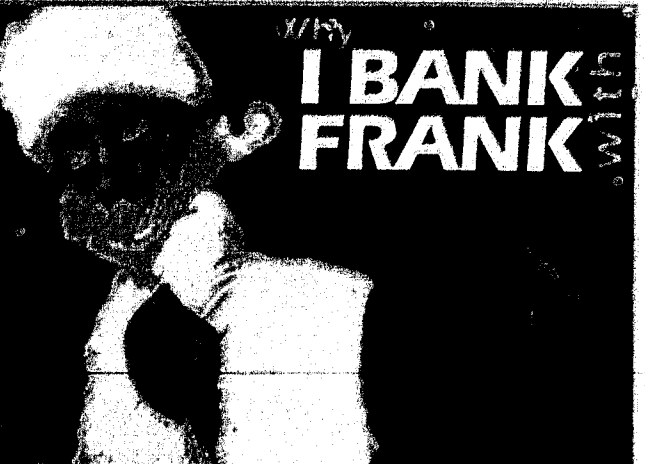
**THE
SPIRIT
IS GROWING**
—And so is
our gratitude!

We really appreciate your
business and goodwill.
Have a great holiday!

Please note we will
be on vacation until
January 20th

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**CLOSING 1 P.M.
CHRISTMAS EVE**
(Regular Hours
New Year's Eve)



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

District Exchange; Bethel Park, 23 Mason Street, Bethel. Hours: Monday 1 to 4 p.m., Thursday 4 to 6 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Donations of gently-used clothing only accepted during open hours - No exceptions. FMI: 824-4090. Clothing may also be left at Northeast Bank, Main Street, Bethel Monday through Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Thursday and Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Saturday 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

Food Pantry; Nazarene Church, Park Street, Bethel. By appointment only (824-0369).

Thursday, Dec. 26

Après Ski; 3 p.m., The Foggy Goggle. Live music with Bruce Jacques.

Friday, Dec. 27

THS/TMS Volunteer Information; 9 to 11 a.m., Café DiCocoa. Rosemary Bunn will be available to share information on volunteering at Telstar. FMI: write_to_rosemary@yahoo.com.

Christmas Ski Camp; 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Mt. Abram.

Après Ski; 3 p.m., The Foggy Goggle. Live music with Bruce Jacques.

Après Ski; 3 p.m., Barker Bar. Live music with the Ron Gill Duo.

The Tardy Brothers; 7 p.m., Grand Summit Hotel. Sarcastic wit, physical comedy, live music, and high energy juggling. Tickets: \$8/adults, \$5/Children 12 and under, 5 and under free.

Carl Vee at Mt. Abram; 8 to 10 p.m. at Loose Boots Lounge. Music from the 1950s through 1980s.

Twiddle; 7 p.m., The Foggy Goggle, South Ridge, Sunday River. A Vermont-based quartet playing a blend of jazz, classical, bluegrass, reggae and funk.

Saturday, Dec. 28

Pleasant Mountain Snowshoe Hike; 8:45 a.m., Pleasant Mountain's Bald Peak trail. Carpooling is encouraged as parking is limited. This will be a strenuous hike requiring proper winter clothing, boots, fluids and food. Conditions may require snowshoes, traction devices, hiking poles and extra provisions. The first mile includes a 1,400 foot elevation gain with the round trip totaling three miles, taking approximately five hours. FMI: Jon Evans (jon@elt.org) or call 647-4352.

Après Ski; 3 p.m., The Foggy Goggle. Live music with Big Ol' Dirty Bucket.

Jones Dance Band; 7 to 10 p.m., South Paris Legion Hall. Adults: \$5.

Royal Hammer; 7 p.m., The Foggy Goggle, South Ridge, Sunday River. A 7-piece roots reggae group from Portland.

Fireworks; 8:30 p.m. South Ridge Lodge, Sunday River.

Monday, Dec. 30

Free Horse-drawn Wagon Rides; 1 to 3 p.m., Bethel Common. Sponsored by Sunday River Rentals, the Glen House and the Bingham House.

An Evening with Amity Schlaes; 6 p.m. Topic: "Scrooge as he is reflected in the current economy and popular culture." Seating is limited. RSVP required, preferably by Dec. 16. FMI/RSVP: 665-2049.

Ian Stewart - Master Hypnotist; 7 p.m., Grand Summit Hotel. An entertaining event with the highest level of hypnosis knowledge seen on any stage today. Tickets: \$8/adults, \$5/Children 12 and under, 5 and under free.

Tuesday, Dec. 31

NYE Celebration - Dinner, Dancing, and Cocktails; 5:30 p.m., The Bethel Inn. Five course dinner in the Main Dining Room, Rob Robbins in the South Dining Room and Brad Hooper in the Millbrook Tavern. Champagne toast at midnight. Dinner and entertainment: \$59.95 per person. Entertainment only: \$10 at the door. FMI/Reservations: 1-800-654-0125.

Soule Monde; 7 p.m. The Foggy Goggle, South Ridge, Sunday River. Instrumental, organ-driver funk.

Cirque de Light - Fire Performance Troupe; 7:45 p.m., South Ridge base area, Sunday River. New, techniques have been developed to now allow the fire dancers to paint the night sky with fiery patterns and trails of flame. This is a free performance.

New Year's Dance; 8 p.m. to 12:30 a.m., American Legion, Church Street, South Paris. Music by the Jones Band. Tickets are \$15 if reservations are made by Dec. 21. After that date, tickets are \$20. Ticket price includes a buffet at 9:45. FMI/Reservations: Betty Decoteau (743-7965).

Fireworks; 8:30 p.m. South Ridge Lodge, Sunday River.

NYE at Mt. Abram; Fireworks at 9 p.m. Live music by Stream Reggae at 10 p.m. \$10 cover includes a glass of champagne. 21+ event.

New Year's Eve Party; 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., Dixfield American Legion. Music provided by Noel Palmer and Don. BYOB. \$7 per person or \$10 per couple. FMI/Tickets: 562-8030.

Wednesday, Jan. 1

SAD 44 Ski Free Day; Sunday River Ski Resort. Free lift ticket, free rental, free adult learn to ski/ride clinic. 50 percent food and beverage discount.

Thursday, Jan. 2

THS/TMS Volunteer Information; 1 to 3 p.m., Bethel Library. Rosemary Bunn will be available to share information on volunteering at Telstar. FMI: write_to_rosemary@yahoo.com.

Fridays, Jan. 3 through March 14

Friday Night Town League Race Series; 5 to 8 p.m., Mt. Abram. Teams of 3 to 7 will compete for the overall championship (team members must be age 21 or over). Drop-ins of all ages are welcome to run the course as an additional NASTAR race. Entry fee: \$60 per person for 12-week series team members, \$7 per person for drop-ins. Weekly after race party at Loose Boots Lounge with awards, raffles, drink specials and live music.

Friday, Jan. 3

Après Ski; 3 p.m., The Foggy Goggle. Live music with Dave Gutter.

Saturday, Jan. 4

State Line Snowmobile Club Meeting; 9 a.m., Upton House.

Après Ski; 3 p.m., Barker Bar. Live music with Eric Greene.

Après Ski; 3 p.m., The Foggy Goggle. Live music with Sly-Chi.

Jan. 6 and 7

Community Auditions for Oxford Hills Biennial Broadway Production; 6:30 to 9 p.m., Oxford Hills Comprehensive High School. Actors of all ages needed.

Those auditioning are asked to not bring their own musical piece.

Monday, Jan. 6

Essentials of College Planning for adults 19 and over; 10 a.m., Western Maine University and Community College Center, South Paris. FMI/Registration: 1-800-281-3703 or <http://meoc.maine.edu>. Free and open to the public.

Socrates Café Meeting; 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Waterford Library. Topic: "Is Information Gathering Good for Society?" Moderator: Joanne Morse. Coffee and light refreshments available. FMI: 583-6957.

Friday, Jan. 10

Red Bull Frozen Rush; 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday River Resort, 15 South Ridge Road, Newry. An off-road truck race like no other - eight 900-horsepower Pro4 trucks and their experienced professional drivers hit the slopes for a head-to-head race on the steep and unpredictable snowy terrain. FMI: www.redbull.com/frozenrush.

Open House; 1 to 4 p.m., Greenwood Town Office, Gore Road, Locke's Mills.

Saturday, Jan. 11

Full Moon Hike; 5 p.m., Mt. Abram. Skis and boards will be transported to the top so hikers can ski or ride back down following the hike.

Living on a Bad Name; 7 p.m., The Foggy Goggle, South Ridge, Sunday River. Bon Jovi tribute band - a guaranteed energetic show.

Monday, Jan. 13

Essentials of College Planning for adults 19 and over; 10 a.m., Western Maine University and Community College Center, South Paris. FMI/Registration: 1-800-281-3703 or <http://meoc.maine.edu>. Free and open to the public.

Hoopalula's Fire Gaia; 6:45 p.m., South Ridge base area, Sunday River. Hoopalula takes "hooping" to the next level by adding fire to their performances! Fire-dancing adds exceptional flair and provides sizzling entertainment that will leave you raving for more. This is a free event.

Fireworks; 7:30 p.m. South Ridge Lodge, Sunday River.

Tuesday, Jan. 14

Rainforest Reptile Show; 7 p.m., Grand Summit Hotel. They're exotic crawlers, unusual 'slitherers' and fascinating creepers: They are the creatures of the rainforest. Educates and entertains people of all ages about reptiles, animals, and the importance of preserving their natural habitats. Tickets: Adults/\$8, Children 12 and under/\$5, under 5 free.

Master Gardener Volunteer Training Application Deadline; This 15-week course will begin Wednesday, Jan. 29, 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. Participants will learn the art and science of how plants grow and volunteer time to Main Harvest for Hunger and other garden-related community projects. FMI/Applications: Visit <http://umaine.edu/oxford/programs/> or call 1-800-287-1482.

Thursday, Jan. 16

Ski the East Day; Mt. Abram. Guests wearing Ski the East gear will get a free lift ticket. Free demos from Worth skis and Launch snowboards will be available. There will be an après ski party with live music and giveaways in the Loose Boots Lounge.



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The Satellite

Newsletter of School Administrative District #44: Andover • Bethel • Greenwood • Newry • Woodstock

CRESCENT PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Mrs. Meader's first graders at Crescent Park School celebrate Thanksgiving with Mr. Brown.



Mallory Brooke and cameraman John from WMTW News 8 visited second grade at The Crescent Park School. They gave a very informative presentation about forecasting the weather.



Students in Mary Merrill's first grade classroom are using IPADS at a center to individualize their education. With the use of IPADS in the classroom teachers are able to give students a more customized learning experience. They are able to assign specific apps to each child depending on their individual needs. Another very exciting use of this piece of technology in the first grade is through QR codes. Teachers are able to record a lesson that students who need reteaching, refreshers or who have been absent can watch. These are very exciting times in our district!



The Crescent Park Chorus sang for the Bethel Senior Citizens Club at the Bethel Inn recently.



Mrs. Lee's class had a pancake breakfast and welcomed Morgan back from her semester abroad in London.

TELSTAR NEWS



TMS students have been very lucky to have Calvin Vaillancourt from the University of Maine 4-H Learning Center at Bryant Pond visiting our Science classes and providing an enrichment activity through MKA after school. Calvin is teaching his young Einsteins all about magnets and electromagnetism through hands on experiments. They will end the unit with electromagnetic motors. Thank you Calvin for engaging our kids!



The Telstar faculty were proud to recognize Nyia Dixon, Emma Nelson and Dylan Richmond as our Super Stars for the month of November. These students are role models to their peers for their positive involvement and dedication to learning.

ANDOVER ELEMENTARY



AES students and PTA prepare for the holidays.

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Monday - Friday
7 am - 5 pm
Saturday
9 am - 1 pm

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Puzzles4Kids

by Helene Hovanec

CODED RIDDLE

Change each letter to the one that comes immediately BEFORE it in the alphabet to find a riddle and its answer.

Here's a copy of the alphabet to guide you:

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

XIBU EPFT B DBUFSQJMMBS EP

PO OFX ZFBS'T EBZ? JU UVSOT

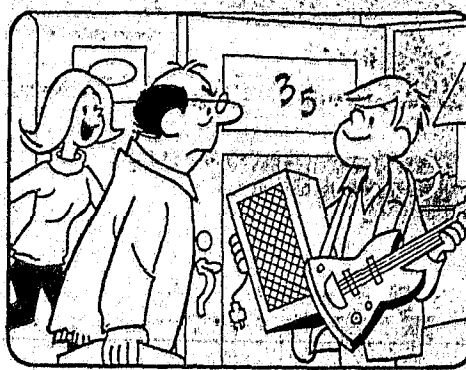
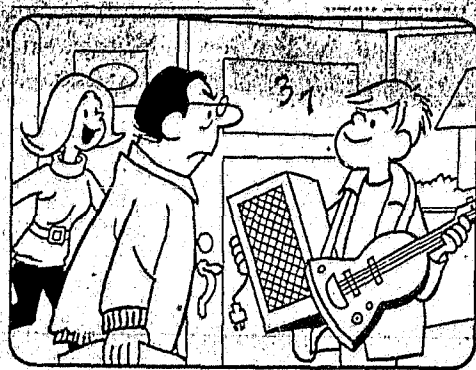
PWFS B OFX MFBG.

For more puzzle fun, go to www.brainzzles.com

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



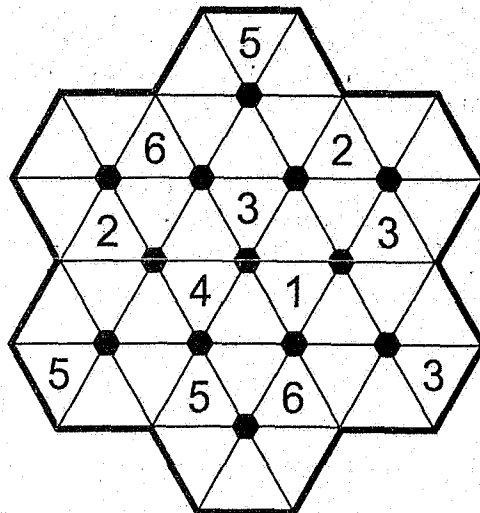
Differences:
1. Belt is missing. 2. Arm cuff is missing. 3. Hair is different.
4. Number is different. 5. Neckline is different. 6. Guitar is different.

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SNOWFLAKES

by Japheth Light

There are 13 black hexagons in the puzzle. Place the number 1-6 around each of them. No number can be repeated in any partial hexagon shape along the border of the puzzle.

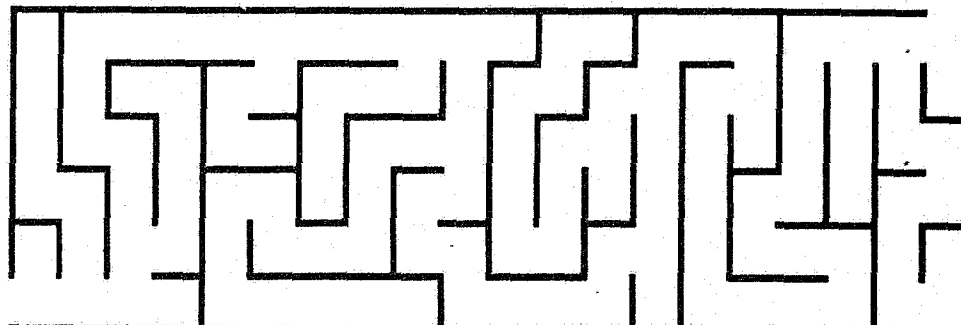


DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Easy ◆◆ Medium ◆◆◆ Difficult

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Kids' Maze

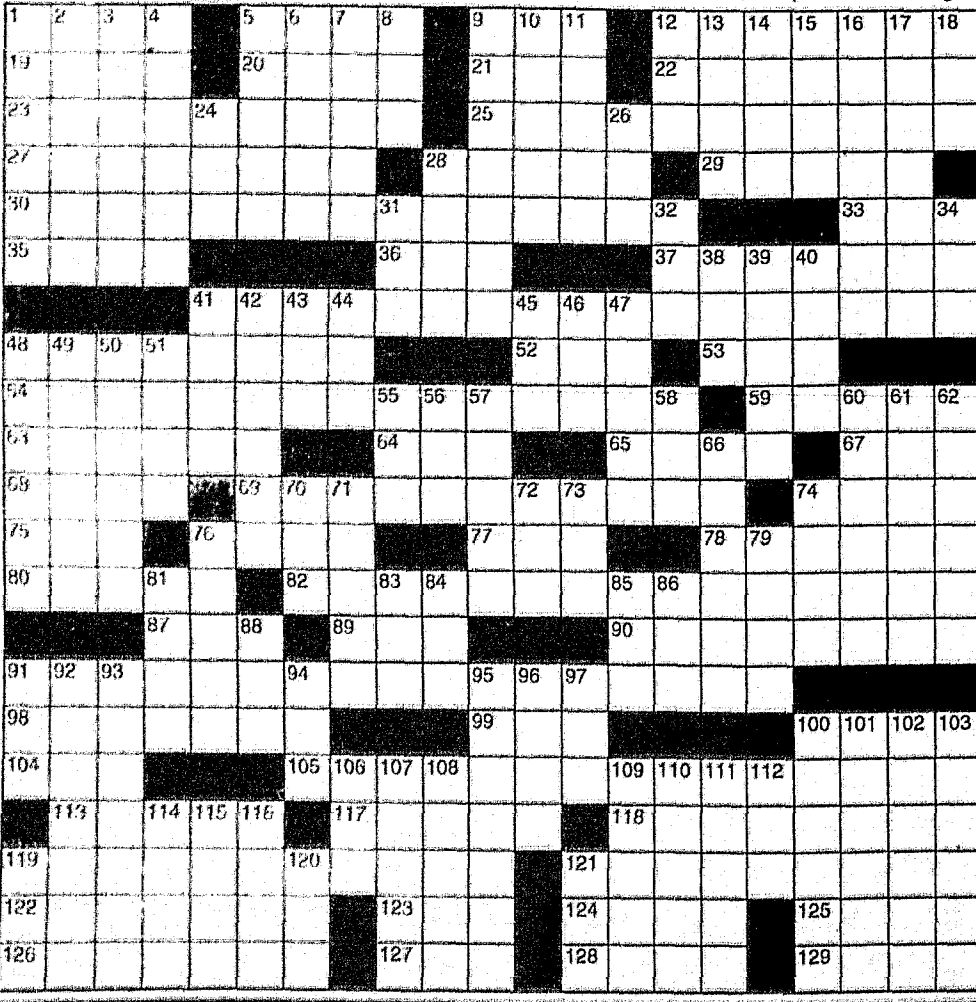


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Super Crossword

BAD MOVES

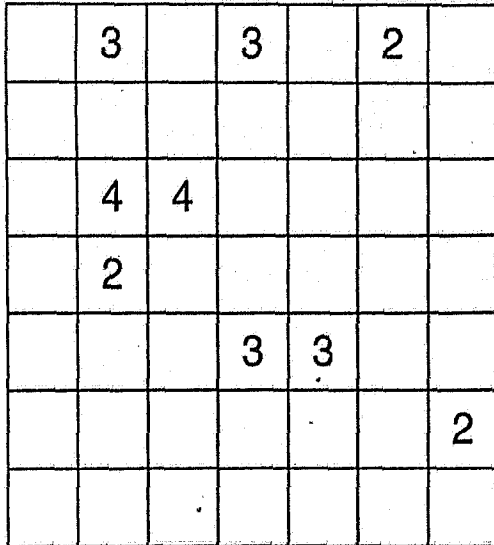
- ACROSS
- 1 "No" voter
 - 5 Lhasa -- (small dog)
 - 9 Obscured
 - 12 Curtain
 - 19 Sports side
 - 20 Rice and Curry
 - 21 Truck-taking card, often
 - 22 Plant, alert
 - 23 "To Kill a Mockingbird" novelist
 - 25 Wisconsin, with "the"
 - 27 Of the aorta, for example
 - 28 San Fran NFLer
 - 29 Alternative to a Roth IRA
 - 30 Annual hoops "drawing"
 - 33 Back damages, perhaps
 - 35 Unit of force
 - 36 Poker great
 - 37 Captivates
 - 41 Internet pop-ups, e.g.
 - 48 Lurched side-to-side
 - 52 It's beatified
 - 53 One crying "Cut!" Abbr.
- DOWN
- 2 Within reach
 - 3 Kilt material
 - 4 Hinder
 - 5 Central courtyards
 - 6 Rice --
 - 7 Silvery fish
 - 8 Sugar suffix
 - 9 Regular visitor
 - 10 Quitter's cry
 - 11 Actress Pfeiffer
 - 12 Live
 - 13 Jurist Robert
 - 14 Suitor's gift
 - 15 "Keep -- yourself!"
 - 16 Seems to last forever
 - 17 Injured oneself
 - 18 Summer, to Sarire
 - 24 Go wrong
 - 26 Mutt's noise
 - 28 Tube lover's punishment
 - 31 Narc's find
 - 32 "Assuredly"
 - 34 Lion chaser?
 - 38 Flanders of Springfield
 - 39 " -- brother's keeper?"
 - 40 Ford make, for short
 - 41 Public prosperity
 - 42 "The nose of them that rejoice --"
 - 43 " -- Mir Bist Du Schön"
 - 44 Adj. modifier
 - 45 Joplin piece
 - 46 Suit's partner
 - 47 Pitcher Hideki --
 - 48 D flat's equivalent
 - 49 Big name in contact lenses
 - 50 Rad gems
 - 51 Dies away
 - 55 Betting slip
 - 56 Catch cold
 - 57 Lawn growth
 - 58 Karel Capek sci-fi play
 - 60 Composer Kabalevsky
 - 61 Cranston a.k.a. "the Shadow"
 - 62 Microscopic
 - 66 Part of the Greater Toronto Area
 - 70 Bird of myth
 - 71 Sioux tribe
 - 72 Give the title
 - 73 Eggs in fads
 - 74 Guinness of "Cromwell"
 - 76 Fish bait
 - 79 "Terrible" guy
 - 81 Frog's kin
 - 83 Angling pole
 - 84 Hack (off)
 - 85 Insult, in rap
 - 86 Foldout bed
 - 88 "Norma --"
 - 91 Simple vow
 - 92 Emmy-winning Jane
 - 93 Fitness guru Jack
 - 94 "Thwack!"
 - 95 Gave a blue ribbon, say
 - 96 Acute
 - 97 Kauai, e.g.: Abbr.
 - 100 Fez dangle
 - 101 Melodious passage
 - 102 Thin down
 - 103 First U.S. station
 - 106 Part of many Arabic names
 - 107 Political plot
 - 108 Singer/guitarist John
 - 109 President Martin Van --
 - 110 "What's in --?"
 - 111 Real Imp
 - 112 Scots' "no"
 - 114 Signals "OK"
 - 115 Frizzy hairdo
 - 116 Russian autocrat
 - 119 Slick 50 rival
 - 120 Solo finish?
 - 121 Sis' sibling



Star★Map

By Linda Thistle

Draw a star in exactly 10 of the empty squares in the diagram so that each numbered square accurately indicates how many immediately adjacent squares (horizontally, vertically or diagonally) contain a star.



DIFFICULTY: ★

★ Easy ★★ Moderate ★★★ YOWZA!

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Kids' Maze Solution

EFFICIENCY

Today's Word:

3. Canopy; 4. Finite

1. Crease; 2. Adrift

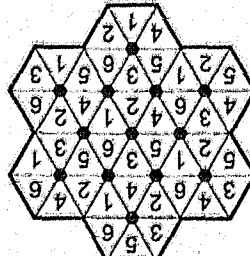
SCRAMBLERS

solution

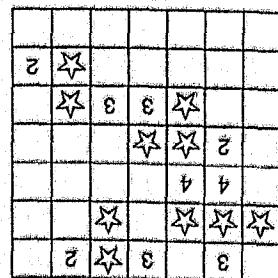
Puzzles4Kids

What does a caterpillar do on New Year's Day?

It turns over a new leaf.



SNOWFLAKES



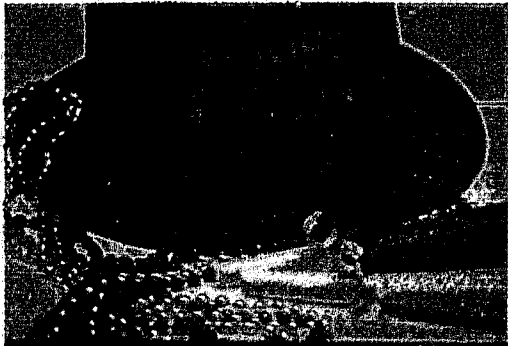
Star★Map

ANSWERS:

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Festive ideas for ringing in the new year with friends and family!

Happening Around Town

The Tardy Brothers
Friday, December 27
7pm at the Grand Summit Hotel. Sarcastic wit, physical comedy, live music, and high energy juggling. Tickets: \$8/adults, \$5/children 12 and under, 5 and under free.

Twiddle
Friday, December 27
7pm at the Foggy Goggle, South Ridge, Sunday River. A Vermont-based quartet playing a blend of jazz, classical, bluegrass, reggae, and funk.

Royal Hammer
Saturday, December 28
7pm at the Foggy Goggle, South Ridge, Sunday River. A 7-piece roots reggae group from Portland.

Fireworks
Saturday, December 28
South Ridge Lodge, Sunday River, 8:30pm.

Horse-Drawn Wagon Rides
Monday, December 30
Horse-drawn wagon rides for the whole family! 1-3pm. Sponsored by Sunday River Rentals. Meet at the north end of the town common near the Chapman Inn for rides through historic Bethel village. Rides given by Deepwood Farm.

Ian Stewart, Master Hypnotist
Monday, December 30
Grand Summit Hotel. An entertaining event with the highest level of hypnosis knowledge seen on any stage today. Tickets: \$8/adults, \$5/Children 12 and under, 5 and under free.

New Year's Eve Celebration
Tuesday, December 31
Dinner, Dancing, and Cocktails; 5:30 p.m., The Bethel Inn. Five course dinner in the Main Dining Room, Rob Robbins in the South Dining Room and Brad Hooper in the Millbrook Tavern. Champagne toast at midnight. Dinner and entertainment: \$59.95 per person. Entertainment only: \$10 at the door. FMI/Reservations: 1-800-654-0125.

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Tuesday, December 31
7 p.m. The Foggy Goggle, South Ridge, Sunday River. Instrumental, organ-driver funk.

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Tuesday, December 31
Fire Performance Troupe; 7:45 p.m., South Ridge base area, Sunday River. New techniques have been developed to now allow the fire dancers to paint the night sky with fiery patterns and trails of flame. This is a free performance.

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Tuesday, December 31
South Ridge Lodge, Sunday River, 8:30pm.

New Year's Eve at Mt. Abram
Tuesday, December 31
Fireworks at 9 p.m. Live music by Stream Reggae at 10 p.m. \$10 cover includes a glass of champagne. 21+ event.

SAD 44 Ski Free Day
Wednesday, January 1
Sunday River Ski Resort. Free lift ticket, free rental, free adult learn to ski/ride clinic. 50 percent food and beverage discount.



Shop Local Throughout the Year

While you're wrapping up your shopping – and wrapping up your gifts – reflect on your shopping experience. Did you find something fun, useful, or perfect for someone in an unexpected way? Did you meet a helpful shopkeeper, or get to know your neighbors a little better when you ran into them out on the town? Did you discover something for yourself that you wouldn't have otherwise purchased locally? If you answered YES to any of these questions, keep that in mind when you're shopping throughout the year. Shopping locally is a mindset that benefits the economy and community all 365 days!

Cran-Orange Pork Medallions

1 to 1½ lb. pork tenderloin, cut into 1-inch slices
½ tsp garlic powder
½ tsp coriander
½ tsp salt
¼ tsp pepper
2 tbsp olive oil
1 red onion, chopped
½ cup orange marmalade
¼ cup orange juice
¼ cup sweetened dried cranberries
2 tbsp balsamic vinegar

Place pork slices between 2 pieces of wax paper. Using a rolling pin, flatten to 1/4-inch thickness. Combine seasonings; sprinkle over both sides of pork. In a large skillet, sauté pork in oil for 3 minutes on each side, or until juices run clear. Remove and keep warm. In same skillet, sauté onion in pan juices for 5 minutes, or until tender. Stir in remaining ingredients; bring to a boil. Reduce heat; return pork to skillet. Simmer, uncovered, for 5 minutes, or until sauce is thickened. Makes 4 servings.

Tangy Slaw

1 head red cabbage, shredded
1 head green cabbage, shredded
1 carrot, peeled and shredded
1 onion, finely chopped
1 green pepper, finely chopped
16-oz. bottle red wine vinegar & oil salad dressing
¼ cup olive oil
¼ cup sugar
1 tbsp Dijon mustard
1 tsp caraway seed
salt and pepper to taste

Toss together vegetables in a large serving bowl; set aside. Combine remaining ingredients; pour over vegetables. Refrigerate until ready to serve. Toss before serving. Makes 8 to 10 servings.

Roasted Walnut & Pear Salad

1 head romaine lettuce, torn
2 cups pears, thinly sliced
2 Roma tomatoes, chopped
1 cup walnuts
2 tbsp butter
¼ cup brown sugar, packed
4 oz. pkg. crumbled blue cheese
8 oz. bottle raspberry white wine vinegar salad dressing

Place lettuce in a large serving bowl; lay pears on top and add tomatoes. In a medium skillet, roast walnuts in butter until golden; add brown sugar and stir over low heat until walnuts are hardened with glaze. Add walnuts to salads, sprinkle on blue cheese and toss with vinegar dressing. Makes 6 to 8 servings.

Golden Parmesan Roasted Potatoes

¼ cup all-purpose flour
¼ cup grated Parmesan cheese
¾ tsp salt
⅛ tsp pepper
6 potatoes, peeled and cut into wedges
⅓ cup butter, melted
Garnish:
fresh parsley, chopped

Place flour, cheese, salt and pepper in a large plastic zipping bag; mix well. Add potato wedges; shake to coat. Pour butter into a 13"x9" baking pan, tilting to coat; arrange potatoes in pan. Bake, uncovered, at 375 degrees for one hour. Sprinkle with parsley. Serves 4 to 6.

Smothered Green Beans

1 lb. green beans
6 slices bacon
3 stalks celery, chopped
1 onion, chopped
1 red pepper, chopped
3 plum tomatoes, seeded and chopped
2 cloves garlic, minced
1½ tsp salt
½ tsp dried thyme
½ tsp dried basil
½ tsp paprika
¼ tsp pepper

Cook green beans in boiling water to cover for 6 to 8 minutes, until crisp tender. Drain and place in ice water to stop the cooking process. Cook bacon in a large skillet until crisp; remove bacon and drain on paper towels, reserving 2 tablespoons drippings in skillet. Crumble bacon and set aside. Cook celery, onion and red pepper in hot drippings in skillet over medium-high heat for 5 minutes. Add green beans and remaining ingredients; cook, stirring often, until heated through. Sprinkle bacon on top. Makes 6 to 8.

Hot Fudge Spoon Cake

1 cup all-purpose flour
1¾ cups brown sugar, packed and divided
¼ cup plus 3 tbsp baking cocoa, divided
2 tsp baking powder
¼ tsp salt
½ cup milk
2 tbsp butter, melted
½ tsp vanilla extract
1¾ cup hot water
Optional:
vanilla ice cream

Combine flour, one cup brown sugar, 3 tablespoons cocoa, baking powder and salt in a medium bowl. Whisk in milk, butter and vanilla. Spread evenly in a 3 1/2-quart slow cooker. Mix together remaining ¾ cup brown sugar and ¼ cup cocoa; sprinkle evenly over top of batter. Pour in hot water; do not stir. Cover and cook on high setting for 2 hours or until a toothpick inserted one inch deep comes out clean. Spoon warm cake into bowls; top with vanilla ice cream, if desired. Serves 6.

Peanut Butter Whimsy Bars

2 cups sugar
½ cup milk
½ cup butter
⅛ tsp salt
1 tsp vanilla extract
½ cup creamy peanut butter
3 cups quick-cooking oats, uncooked

Combine sugar, milk, butter and salt in a saucepan; bring to a boil. Boil for one minute; remove from heat. Add vanilla and peanut butter; stir until smooth. Pour over oats in a large bowl; mix well. Pour mixture into a 13"x9" baking pan lined with wax paper. Allow to cool completely. Lift wax paper out of pan; cut into squares. Makes 2-1/2 to 3 dozen.

Warm Fruity Punch

32 oz. bottle cranberry juice cocktail
32 oz. can pineapple juice
⅓ cup red cinnamon candies
4 inch cinnamon stick
Optional:
additional cinnamon sticks

Combine juices, candies and cinnamon stick in a slow cooker. Cover and cook on low setting for 2 to 5 hours. Remove cinnamon stick before serving. Use additional cinnamon sticks as stirrers, if desired. Makes 8 servings.





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Have you made your resolutions yet?

9 things to do when the new year arrives



Visit family and friends.

This time of year may be happy for some, but for those far from members of the family or seniors who may have lost many close companions, the winter and post-holiday season could bring on the blues. Visiting extended family you may not have seen during the holidays is one way to pass the day. You also can volunteer some of your time at a senior center or assisted-living facility to spread some post-holiday cheer.

Discard expired foods and medicines.

Take this opportunity to throw out any medications that expire this year, which will give you a head start on spring cleaning as well. Toss out old makeup and cosmetic products and make a list of new items to buy. Also, take inventory of the refrigerator and freezer, cleaning out any items that are no longer recognizable or that are past the recommended date.

Head to the movies.

Go to the movie theater and take in a flick with the family. January is not the most active time for new releases, but there are some films released in the first month of the year. You can enjoy a lazy day with some cinematic magic and a bag of popcorn.

Make a folder to store tax preparation paperwork.

Tax season is just around the corner. Use this time to collect any paperwork you already may have received and put it in a safe place. Expect new statements of past earnings, any information about interest earned on bank statements and other pertinent tax documents to start arriving. Also, if you use an accountant to help file your taxes, call his or her office and book an appointment before his or her schedule fills up.

Watch a football game.

After weeks of running around at a

break-neck pace, use this day to lounge around and recharge. Chances are you can find a football game on television. Order in a pizza and cheer on your favorite team.

Encourage the kids to put down the toys and pick up a book.

Many students will be returning to school soon after an extended winter recess. Have them get back into the swing of things by brushing up on lessons last touched on in December.

Host a post-holiday pot luck.

Clean out the refrigerator of those salvageable leftovers from your New Year's Eve bash. Invite others over with their own foods and host one last party before you have to get back to the daily grind.

There are many ways to start off the new year on the right foot. Get a head start on cleaning or organizing, or relax once more with friends and family.

People across the globe anxiously await the arrival of the new year. Different cultures and religions celebrate their own new year at different times, but for much of the world, January 1 marks the date for change and renewal.

With so much emphasis placed on what people will be doing for the last day of the year, little thought may be given to what to do after the clock strikes 12. Each minute afterward opens up the possibilities to begin fresh with new goals and tasks.

For those wondering how to commence the new year, there are many ways to tackle the first day and thereafter -- after you have recovered from the New Year's Eve celebration, that is.

Take down holiday decorations.

While there are some people who prefer to leave up their Christmas decorations until after the celebration of the Epiphany, or Three Kings Day, by January 1 many are ready to say goodbye to the holiday season for another year. Having the day off of work and school enables you to spend time removing decorations from the house and taking down the tree, especially before dried-out pine needles become more than you can handle.

Shop post-holiday sales.

After spending several months buying for every person on your list, this could be a time that you focus on picking up some

things for yourself or the household. Stores may need to liquidate holiday stock and other inventory to make room for spring styles. Many shoppers find the deals hard to pass up when shopping in the early days of January. Check online to comparison shop, and scour the Internet for any printable coupons that can earn you even bigger discounts.

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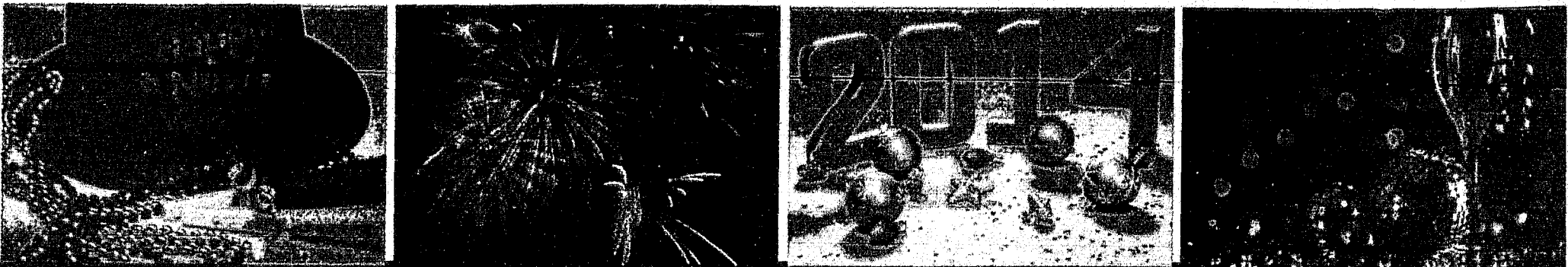
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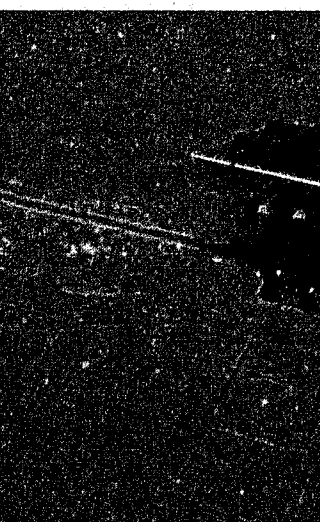
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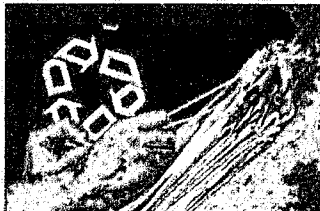
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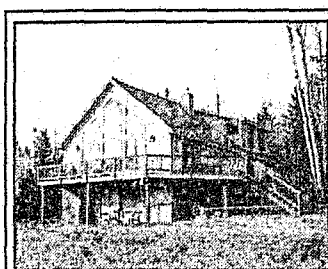
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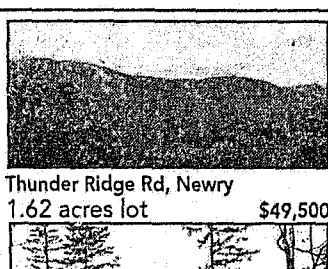
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The SAP Coordinator will focus primarily on capacity building, assessment and strategic planning. The coordinator will build and sustain functional community partnerships with various people and organizations, including healthcare providers, social service agencies, law enforcement, businesses, schools, parents, and youth. Through policy and environmental-level strategy implementation, the coordinator will work with partners to prevent and reduce substance abuse, including tobacco, marijuana and illegal drug use, as well as alcohol and prescription drug misuse.

Requirements include a Bachelor's degree or equivalent combination of education and work experience. A Master's degree is preferred. Applicants with a background including knowledge of public health issues, substance abuse and tobacco prevention strategies as well as experience with program development and group facilitation are desired. Candidates should possess strong organizational skills and excellent written and verbal communication skills. Time management skills to meet deadlines are essential as well as maintaining good working relationships with various organizations and team members. Additional qualifications include basic computer knowledge, and the ability to work occasional weekends and/or evening hours.

Salary Range: Pay range is \$15-\$17 per hour and will be based on experience and education. This position has the potential to become full time.

Send resume and cover letter, in Word or PDF format, to rvhccduway@vsi.net or mail to: RVHCC, P.O. Box 86, Rumford, ME 04276

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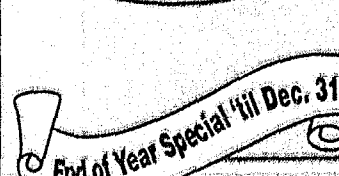
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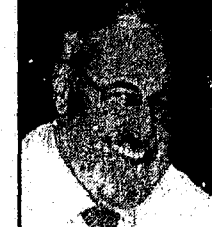
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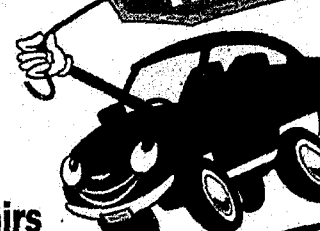
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FALL LINE - N109 1bed/1bath, recently remodeled, pool, furnished, slopeside \$129,000 OPERA HOUSE #24 1bed/1bath, full kitchen, village area.....\$69,900

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TOWN OF BETHEL COMMITTEE VACANCIES

The Town of Bethel is seeking volunteers to serve on various town committees. Persons interested in serving on the committees listed below should submit an application form to the Town Office. To obtain an application form go to our web site www.bethelmaine.org, call 207-824-2669, pick up from the Town Office, or email us at info@bethelmaine.org. All applications must be received by 12 PM, Wednesday, January 8, 2014.

Committee	Number of Vacancies	Length of Term (Years)
Appeals Board	1	3
Budget Committee	2	3
Ordinance Review	1	1
Planning Board	1	2
Water District Trustee	1	3

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Obituaries



KENNETH J. HAMEL

Ken passed on at his home, with his loved ones by his side on Dec. 18, 2013.

He was the son of Peter and Georgiana (Guimond) Hamel. He was born in Berlin, N.H. on Oct. 5, 1927. He married Georgiana Gaulin on May 29, 1948. He is survived by a son, Kenneth P. Hamel and his wife Valerie, and grandchildren Tracie Cheeley, Cassandra Theriot, Alex and Victoria Hamel; daughter Linda Smith and grandchildren Audrey Thibodeau, Mandee Curtis and Candi Walker; son Keith D. Hamel and his wife Marilyn, and grandchildren, Joshua Hamel and Matthew Hamel; son-in-law Albert Sumner; in-laws Pricilla Gagne, Cecelia Nelson and Lillian Landry; grandchild-

dren Jason Walega, Holly Walega, Ty Morin, Amy Conley and many great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents, his wife Georgiana, his daughters Rose Sumner and Phyllis Davis, sons-in-law Dale Smith and Bruce Davis and his beloved cats, Foxy and Mittens.

There will be a graveside service in the spring at Saint Ann cemetery in Berlin, N.H.

CHARLES D. MERRILL

Charles D. Merrill, 86, of Bethel died Dec. 22, 2013 at Maine Medical Center in Portland.

He was born May 29, 1927 in Manchester, N.H., the son of Wallace and Nora (Haley) Merrill.

He served in the U.S. Army, and was a member of American Legion Post 81 and 40 and 8.

He married Caroline Olson on Oct. 16, 1949.

He owned Charlie's Chevron Service Station in Bethel.

He loved boating, snowmobiling and restoring old cars.

He is survived by his wife; two daughters, Darlene Merrill of Falmouth and Judy McCaslin of

Winslow; and a grandson, Derek Murphy of Winslow.

He was predeceased by three siblings, Carnelia Brown, Cornelius Merrill and Ralph Merrill; and grandson Nicholas Murphy.

Services will take place Friday, Dec. 27, at 11 a.m. at Our Lady of the Snows in Bethel. Interment will take place in Pine Grove Cemetery in West Bethel in the spring.

Donations in his memory may be made to the Bethel Fire Department.

JOHN BATES

John Newton (Jack) Bates, loving husband, father, and grandfather passed away on Thursday Dec. 19, 2013.

Born on April 27, 1925 to John N. Bates and Rose Eloise (Rivera) Bates, he was raised and educated on Long Island in New York.

He served our country as a Sargent in the United States Army during WWII, earning a purple heart. Upon returning he moved to Levittown and started working for the New York Telephone Company. He stayed at both until retiring to Rangeley, Me. in 1982.

He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Maria Del Pilar (Noriega) Bates; his children Eloise Lewis of Woodstock, Me., Andrew Bates and his wife Gloria of New York, Michael Lawrence and his wife Robin of Louisville, Kentucky, and Monica Lawrence of Tucson, Ariz.; his grandchildren, John Lewis and his wife Tonya of Woodstock, Benjamin Lewis of Woodstock, Olivia Bates of New York, Michael Jason Lawrence of Louisville, Ky., Joshua Lawrence and his fiancé Natalie Cannon of Louisville, Ky., Jonathan Lawrence of Tucson, Ariz., and Michelle Lawrence of Tucson, Ariz.; his great grandchildren Lily Lewis of Woodstock, and Wyatt Lawrence of Louisville, Ky. He is also survived by a sister, Rosemary Brown and her husband Bill of North Carolina. He was much loved and will be greatly missed.

Pursuant to his request he has been cremated. Services will be held at the Rangeley Congregational Church on April 27, 2014 at 1 p.m. Arrangements by Cliff Gray Cremation & Funeral Services, 60 Andrews Road, Bryant Pond, Me.

Wedding



Kist-Buck

The wedding of Emily Kist and Andrew Buck was held on Oct. 5 at Snow Falls in West Paris. It was a private ceremony. The bride's mother, Jennifer Wilson, and her companion, Billy Farnum of Norway, and the groom's parents, Lee and Pamela Buck of Albany, shared the lovely day with the new couple. There will be a big celebration next year for family and friends to attend at the home of the groom's parents in Albany.

Real Estate Transfers

Andover

Richard J. and Marjorie L. Dubois to Barry D. Martin and David S. Percival of Andover, property at 690 Upton Road. \$75,000, Aug. 30, 2013.

Patricia Bush Scadding to Patrick T. Gallagher of Providence, R.I., land and building at 30 Fire Lane 432. \$95,000, Sept. 18, 2013.

Robert H. and Vickie A. Cuff to Duane Ward of Kennebunkport, land and building at Map 6 Lot 39-2. \$80,649, Sept. 19, 2013.

Birth

Belinski

Heather Owens and Matthew Belinski of Bethel are pleased to announce the arrival of a baby boy, Graesyn Carter Belinski, born on Dec. 12, 2013 at Stephens Memorial Hospital, weighing 7 pounds.

Maternal grandparents are Robert Owens of Bethel and Stacey Choquette of Richmond, Va.

Paternal grandparents are Sharon and George Belinski, Sr. of Seffner, Fla.

Graesyn joins two sisters, ShaiAne, 17, Aubrianna, 5 and a brother, Bradley, 18.

Thank You

Thank you to all that stopped by the Greenwood-Woodstock Transfer Station in Greenwood for my birthday and partial retirement or sent something special. Thanks to my friend and co-worker Mindy. Also thanks to Rick and Ellen from Maine Line Products, where I worked for 5 years, and to anyone else that helped.

Thanks to all,
Dale Crockett

Engagement



Stearns / Crockett

Mary and Dan Stearns of Rumford Point along with JoAnn and David Crockett of Bethel are pleased to announce the engagement of their children, Erin Ellen Stearns and Ray Joseph Crockett.

Erin is a 2004 graduate of Mountain Valley High School, a 2008 graduate of University of Maine at Farmington and a 2013 graduate of the University of Southern Maine where she earned a Master's degree in Literacy. The future bride is currently employed at Crescent Park School in Bethel as a kindergarten teacher. Ray is a 2003 graduate of Telstar High School. The future groom is employed at Cross Excavation in Bethel as a truck driver and as a volunteer firefighter at the Bethel Fire Department.

The couple currently resides in West Bethel. A September, 2014 wedding is planned in Berlin, N.H.

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